جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصفر بالانجليزية أعن للؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية دالراي،

A senior army officer in the

Gaza Strip said an army patrol

was fired on near the camp

"In this attack one of

soldiers was wounded and died

after a few minutes," he told

The Hamas organisation claimed responsibility for the

Ezz-Eddin Al Qassam, the

military wing of Hamas, said in a statement that the ambush was

carried out by three men, who

fired 90 bullets at two army jeeps

from five metres away. It made

no mention of Israeli casualties.

The attackers were not cap-

Military censors delayed pub-

lications of this report for 14 hours, pending notification of the

Palestinians have killed 11

Israelis since the December ex-

pulsion of 415 Palestinians ac-

cused of being Hamas activists. Israelis have killed 62 Palesti-

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak

Rabin returned Friday from a

U.S. trip, cut short to deal with

the wave of Arab-Israeli vio-

lence, and urged citizens to stop employing Palestinians to reduce

Speaking on arrival at the Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv Mr.

Rabin also urged the internation-

al community to invest in the occupied West Bank and Gaza

(Continued on page 5)

nians in the same period.

danger to Israelis.

Aideed

restates

for talks

returns to peace talks.

conciliation conference.

conditions

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The Somali alliance loyal to warlord

Mohammad Farah Aideed Satur-

day repeated demands for the

arrest of a key rival before it

The Aideed-controlled Soma-

lia National Alliance (SNA) de-

nied taking part in committee

meetings on the sidelines of a

suspended U.N.-sponsored re-

"That was a disinformation by

the U.N. We have not and will

not participate in any meeting

until the conditions we have set

are fulfilled," senior SNA mem-

ber Ibrahim Ali Abdi told Reu-

Mr. Abdi repeated an SNA

condition that the talks in

Ethiopia could only resume if the

U.S.-led force in Somalia

arrested and charged rival war-

lord Mohammad Said Hersi.

On Friday, U.N: spokesman Farouk Mawlawi told reporters

that SNA representatives partici-

pated in committee meetings on

disarmament, property disputes,

and ideas for regional administra-

But it was not immediately

clear whether the committees met

formally or informally. Confer-

ence officials said contradictory

statements by the SNA in Moga-dishu and Addis Ababa were due

An SNA spokesman in Moga-

dishu told Reuters. "Internation-

al pressure has brought about his

The U.N. suspended the main

conference Wednesday after re-

southern port of Kismayu be-

and reported back to the confer-

The United States, which com-

mands a multi-national force pro-

tecting famine relief efforts in

Somalia, and the United Nations

have both launched inquiries into

the fighting, which provoked the

(Continued on page 5)

don them completely.

Omar Jess.

to lack of communication.

soldier's family.

AIR FRANCE SUMMER SCHEDULE FROM 31st OF MARCH UNTIL 10th OF JUNE AMMAN - PARIS (CDG , TERMINAL 2C) EVERY WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY - SATURDAY

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Volume 17 Number 5263

AMMAN SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 1993, RAMADAN 28,1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Civil service jobs to be filled soon

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AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Saturday issued detailed instructions to be followed by ministries, government departments and public institutions in filling vacant posts and newly-created job vacancies in the year 1993. The instructions aim to select job seekers for the vacancies fairly and providing the needed expertise for the administrative system. According to the instructions, filling vacancies will start as of April 1, 1993. The instructions provided for commencing the promotion of employees in accordance with the provisions of the civil service system as of the date of the approval of the ministries and government departments formation system for 1993.

Moroccan bar owner held in sex scandal

RABAT (R) — A wealthy Moroccan bar owner wanted in connection with a major sex scandal involving a senior police officer has given himself up after being in hiding for over a month, opposition newspapers reported Saturday. The papers said Mohammad Akil, alias the Boulanger (the baker), was the owner of 13 Casablanca bars and a close associate of Chief Police Commissioner Haj Mohammad Mustapha Tabet sentenced to death by a Casablanca court Monday. A warrant was issued for Mr. Akil's arrest on Feb. 12 by the para-military gendarmeric in charge of investigating the scandal. Officials have said the case is still open and inquiries are continuing. The opposition dailies Liberation and l'Opinion said Mr. Akil and Mr. Tabet were suspected of running a protection' racket in Casablanca and had amassed large fortunes. They said Mr. Akil paid large sums to lawyers to defend Mr. Tabet in court and also paid him protection money for illegal sales of alcoholic beverages in bars and cabarets which have been closed

Bombay blast suspects have left

and sealed by police.

DUBAI (R) - Two Indian brothers implicated in bombings in Bombay left the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on the same day India said it had asked the UAÉ to return them, an employee for the firm which obtained visas for the two said Saturday. "They left already, I think on Wednesday. . We don't know where to," said the employee of the Baig general stores firm in the emirate of Dubai. India said on Wednesday it asked the UAE to return the two Memon brothers who left India for Dubai on March 11, the day before blasts in Bombay killed 246 people. A key to a motor scooter, packed with explosives used in the bombings, was found in an apartment owned by the Memons. UAE government officials were not available to com-

Yemeni workers protest cash crisis

ADEN, Yemen (R) — Hundreds of Yemeni workers took to the streets of Aden Saturday to protest against high inflation and delays in paying public sector wages, the workers marched through several streets and delivered letters to government offices demanding that their wages be paid as well as quick government action to combat inflation. The protests were peaceful and no incidents were reported. Cost-of-living protests sparked food riots in the northern party of Yemen last December in which 12 people were killed but the unrest did not spread to the south at that time. A crisis over cash shortages in southern Yemen eased a few days ago after the central bank transferred funds to its Aden branch to pay the wages of government workers, bankers said. They said the bank would start immediately to provide government departments with wages but it might take until April for all salaries to be paid.

iran marks Nowruz

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranians Saturday celebrated new year's eve, to welcome the Persian year 1372, with ancient rituals rich in symbolism. Nowruz, Farsi for new year, has been celebrated in traditional fashion for hundreds

Israeli troops kill 10-year-old in Gaza; soldier killed in attack OCCUPIED GAZA STRIP live ammunition, they said. (Asencies)—Israeli soldiers shot In the town of Deir Al Balah in A senior army officer in the

wounded 13 Palestinians in all Palestinian men aged between clashes in the occupied Gaza 14 and 60 to assemble in the Strip Saturday and unknown school, Palestinians said. They assailants killed an Israeli soldier, said the army was searching for

Maher Naim Al Najayda died after being shot in the chest during clashes in the Khan Yunis refugee camp.

Palestinians said clashes live ammunition at the demonstrators, wounding two.
Soldiers wounded 11 Palesti-

In the town of Deir Al Balah in the Gaza Strip, soldiers ordered Palestinian activists on the army's wanted list.

Soldiers also dynamited nine houses in the town, they said. The commander of Israel's border police units in the Gaza Strip erupted in the Jabalya camp after said security forces were seeking Palestinians ignored an army-about 100 Palestinians who imposed curfew. Soldiers fire formed the nucleus of Palestinian resistance to Israel rule in the

strip.
Resistance forces shot dead an nians during clashes in Khan Israeli soldier in a pre-dawn



A Palestinian expellee burns the American and Israeli flags in Marj Al Zohour, South Lebanon, during a demonstration organised by Islamic Jihad Friday to mark Al Quds Day (AFP photo)

police tortured children

Rights group: Egyptian

CAIRO (Agencies) - A human they made large numbers of arbitsecurity forces Saturday of torturing a man to death, detaining and torturing children and sexually abusing women in a campaign against Muslim militants.

A report by the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights (EOHR) on recent violence in the Cairo slum of Imbaba also charged militants with appalling abuses of human rights, including burning a police officer to death.

The private, independent group said security forces had ignored and even connived in the activities of militants in Imbaba last year, allowing them to impose rules of behaviour, incite sectarian hatred and attack Christian churches.

"Matters were not checked for as long as violence was contained within civil society or remained Christian-Muslim and did not directly threaten the political system or the lives of those in

power," EOHR said. security forces did crack down on drive; Egyptian unrest deepmilitants in Imbaba in December, rooted, page 2

arrests, tortured det with beatings and electric shocks and held women and children hostage to force suspects to give themselves up. The Egyptian government has

denied previous reports by hu-man rights groups that its forces systematically torture detainees and says any individual cases are prosecuted.

"The police have widely arrested children whose ages range between eight and 15 who have been subject to severe torture in order to give information about the whereabouts of their relatives," EOHR said.

It quoted a 12-year-old boy as saying he had been taken to Imbaba police station with his nine-year-old brother, hung upside down and beaten on the soles of his feet before being left to sleep on a bare tiled floor.

The report said a particular (Continued on page 5) The group said that when the Mubarak launches religious

Yeltsin schedules April referendum on his reign

MOSCOW (Agencies) — President Boris Yeltsin Saturday called for an April 25 national referendum on his presidential rule of politics. and said he will then ask the people to approve a new constitution and replace the communistdominated Congress of People's Deputies.
"The congress refused to listen

to the voice of the country," Mr. Yeltsin said in a nationallytelevised address. Earlier this month the hardline congress trimmed the president's powers. Mr. Yeltsin said the congress

became a rehearsal for the restoration of power of the communist" hierarchy. Mr. Yeltsin stopped short of

dissolving the congress and de-claring direct presidential role, but said that he was "forced to assume responsibility for the fate of the country."

Mr. Yeltsin said that during the period of "special rule" pending the referendum, any decisions or actions contradicting presidential decrees would have no legal

force. But he said parliament and the existing congress would not be dissolved and could continue

said, he had ordered the Defence Ministry to keep the military out

Mr. Yeltsin indicated that he would take over the central bank, currently subordinate to parliament, to safeguard the rouble.

The 62-year-old president, who looked somewhat distracted during his 23-minute address, said he had been forced to act as a patriot and a human being by what he described as an attempt to reimpose communism.

"Russia cannot survive a second October Revolution," he said, recalling the 1917 revolution which ushered in more than seven decades of communist rule. "I am resolved on decisive ac-

tion ... we have to put an end to As a first step, Mr. Yeltsin

said, he would hold a referendum on April 25 to determine whether the people trusted him and his vice-president, Alexander Ruts-

As part of that referendum, Mr. Yeltsin also will ask the people to vote on a draft of a new constitution that would more

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan committed to peace process, hopes for resumption of talks, solution to expellee crisis

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty
King Hussein has expressed hope
that the Arab-Israeli peace pro
we continue to support with all
our might."

The Clinton administration is cess will resume soon, but he also said that he was hoping that the question of the expellees will also

"I am looking forward to the resumption of the talks but also. awaiting a solution to the problem of the expellees who should be repatriated and who are now living very difficult conditions," the King said in an interview with Cosas magazine of Chile.

Although the expellees prob-lem is a Palestinian-Israeli one, it nonetheless is affecting the neighbouring countries of the region like Jordan, Syria and Lebanon,

"Therefore it can be described as a regional issue to which we must all contribute to its solution," the King said.

"The Arab-Israeli issue can by no means be settled without the rights of the Palestinians whom

full of promises included in its clear and open declaration of its commitment to democracy and espect of human rights as well as collaborating with other parties to transform the world into one enjoying security and happiness." the King said in reply to a ques-

In this regard, he said, the U.S. should seize the present opportunity of the peace process in order to find a just solution to the Middle East problem.

In reply to a question about the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the King said that U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 holds the elements for dealing with the problem.

"A solution is vital and should come soon because if we lose this chance now we are bound to face a dark future wrought with danger," the King said.



Asked if he was contemplating a visit to Israel as the late Egyp-tian President Anwar Sadat did, the King replied "this seems to

The two sides, he noted, are trying to deal with the outstanding issues at the bilateral and the multilateral levels, "but what is important is the readiness and the

desire to achieve peace." Jordan has contributed to a great extent to achieve peace and to reach a common understanding to attain that goal not through theatrical moves but rather by

working seriously to attain the aspired peace, the King said. Yet, the King said, he was sad to see that many of the promises remain unfulfilled and many principles have not been respected.

Regardless of the past, I still bold faith and hope. But we believe that we are still in danger and we, along with all the Arabs. yearn for a positive move that would enable us to regain security and rights," added the King in the interview published in San-

(Continued on page 5)

SLA says guerrilla squad

intercepted MARJAYOUN, Lebanopn (Agencies) — Israel's allies

ambushed a guerrilla squad in South Lebanon Saturday, killing a Palestinian and capturing, a Lebanese, security sources said. Hours later guerrillas attacked

two positions of the Israelibacked South Lebanon Army (SLA) gunners retaliated by bombarding the guerrilla-held ridge of Iqlim Al Toufah, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, with

SLA militiamen earlier snared a group of guerrillas trying to plant a roadside bomb just inside the 15-kilometres-deep buffer enclave before sunrise near the village of Braachit.

killed and an Amal member was captured in a firefight, the sources said. The other guerrillas fled and there were no SLA casualties. Guerrillas launched three attacks on Israeli and SLA forces in the zone on Friday but no-one was hurt.

Israeli and militia gunners hit back by shelling villages north of the "security zone," which was set up in 1985 to block attacks across Israel's northern border.

guerrilla as Kassem Moussa, a for the Liberation of Palestine. The one captured was identified Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The clashes in the south were the 4th and 5th in 24 hours, suggesting an upsurge in violence to coincide with Jerusalem Day. No casualties were reported in

Iranian leadership after the 1979 Islamic revolution, is observing on the last Friday of Ramadan.

tank and artillery-fire. The raids were launched by a joint force from the Syrianbacked Amal movement and pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God).

One Palestinian guerrilla was

Sources identified the dead

member of the Democratic Front as Abdul Majeed Zaytoun of the

three clashes Friday. The holiday, decreed by the

PLO wants U.S. guarantees RABAT (Agencies) — Palestine month by U.S. Secretary of State U.S.-Russian invitation to attend

Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Saturday that before Palestinians could return to Middle East peace talks they would need U.S. guarantees in addition to an Israeli commitment not to carry out future expulsions.

"We cannot go to the talks without guarantees from Washington ... and a commitment from Israel on no more deportees in the future,' Mahmoud Abbas told Reuters in an interview. Mr. Abbas, a member of the

PLO Executive Committee, was in Morocco with a Palestinian delegation for talks with King Hassan on Arab-Israeli peace negotiations stalled since Israel expelled 415 Palestinians to South Lebanon in December.

His reference to U.S. guaran- called on the United States to tees was reminiscent of a sixpoint deal which the Palestinians out the status of Jerusalem. thought they had made during a

Warren Christopher. Under that plan, which un-ravelled after Israel objections,

the expulsion illegal and guarantee Israel would implement fully U.S. Security Council Resolution 799 calling for the exiles' immediate return. Israel also would make a

binding commitment" not to carry out expulsions in the future.
The deal envisaged a U.S. commitment that the next round

of talks would focus on U.N. resolutions dealing with the return of occupied Arab territory in exchange for peace, and that the status of Jerusalem could be dis-In the interview, Mr. Abbas

Syria, Lebanon and Jordan said

the next round of talks in Washington on April 20 until after a meeting of foreign ministhe United States would declare ters in Damascus on March 28. But Arab sources have said Palestinians could meet Mr.

Christopher in Washington be-fore then to try to revive their six-point deal. Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid

urged the Palestinians Friday to drop their refusal to participate in the April 20 talks. Dr. Abdul Meguid told reporters in the Tunisian capital that he urged PLO Chairman Yasser

Arafat to give the Palestinian negotiating team the green light to attend the new round of talks in in Washington. The PLO leader replied that ir

make "a clear commitment" ab- the question of the exiles must be resolved first, Dr. Abdul Meguid

684 evacuated from Srebrenica TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina Tuzla

(Agencies) — The U.N. Saturday evacuated hundreds of Muslims including scores of seriously injured people, from a besieged Bosnian enclave. Nineteen vehicles carrying 684

evacuees from the eastern Bosnian town of Srebrenica passed Serb lines and were headed for the Bosnian governmentcontrolled city of Tuzia, said Lynball Sachs, spokeswoman for the Belgrade office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

But frustrations mounted for the international relief effort. U.N. officials criticised Bosnian Serbs for blocking two other convoys and closed Sarajevo's airport for relief flights after a British plane was fired on.

The plane was not hit in the incident Friday.

Belgian Captain Dirk van den Broek told Reuters U.N. commander General Philippe Morilion had reached agreement with the director of Srebrenica hospital Friday to take 100 badly

"This morning when the transportation of the sick from the hospital to the trucks began, everybody started clawing at the trucks and everybody wanted to come along."
"We could not say no to fami-

rated. We are here with 684. That is the exact number," he said. When the convoy reached Ceparde post Bosnian Serb soldiers boarded the trucks and asked children over the age of 17

lies which would have been sepa-

to raise their hands. Capt. Van den Broek said Gen. Morillon, who led the convoy to Srebrenica Friday, had left the convoy at a Bosnian Serb checkpoint in the town of Bratu-

nac and returning to Srebrenica. Capt. Van den Broek estimated the populatin of Srebrenica at between 20,000 and 25,000. Earlier reports had put the total as high as 60,000. There was no immediate explanation for the discrepancy.

Asked whether the U.N. hoped to evacuate more people wounded women and children to from Srebrenica, the Belgian

officer said: "That all depends on if we will be able to get in again. Lete's hope General Morillon 1gets them in."

Capt. Van den Broek was re- e ferring to another convoy of 18 n Danish trucks that was re-routed e from Gorazde to Srebrenica g Saturday but was blocked at the ic Bosnian Serb border town of y Zvornik. The local Serb border com- d

fusing to allow the convoy to s proceed until agreement was it reached on the evacuation of n Serbs from Muslim areas, U.N. :r officials said. Germany said meanwhile may

mander, Vladimir Dakic, was re- e

withdraw its crew from allied surveillance planes if the United -Nations asks its allies to enforce a "no-fly" zone over Bosnia.

A spokesman quoted Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel as saying Boun, despite regrets, would have to act based on a constitutional clause seen as barring German troops from combat outside

(Continued on page 5) Jordan honours Morillon, page 3

Pentagon wary of enhanced cooperation with Israel

By David Makovsky The Jerusalem Post

DESPITE President Bill Clinton's pledge this week to bolster

(Aideed's) decision to go back to strategic cooperation between the U.S. and Israel, the Pentagon has informed Prime Minister Yitzhak newed fighting flared in the Rabin it is turning down ideas that would enhance such ties, tween Morgan loyalists and followers of Aideed ally Ahmad American sources say.

The U.S. does not want to

Officials said the conference liberalise its interpretation of exwould remain suspended until a isting international nonfact-finding mission sent to Kisproliferation regulations that mayu returned to Addis Ababa would enable a freer flow of technology transfer from the U.S. ence Saturday or Sunday. The to Israel, these sources say. U.N. will then decide whether to Furthermore, the Pentagon has go ahead with the talks or aban-

apparently ruled out making Haifa a home port for the U.S. Navy's Sixth Fleet and nixed the idea of storing billions of dollars worth of military equipment in Israel for emergency U.S. military use.

A senior Pentagon official told. The Jerusalem Post about the

limitations of strategic coopera-tion between the two countries: "Port visits, joint exercises,

and training — yes; home port and prepositioning (of materiel) — no," he said. To avoid a formal rejection, aides to Rabin said Israel withdrew its proposal for Haifa to become a "home port" for the Sixth Fleet. The idea of a home port is

porter and member of the key Senate defence appropriations subcommittee Deniel who recently visited Israel. "These can be no prepositioning of a division at a time that

favoured by staunch Israel sup-

(the U.S. is) withdrawing a division from the European theatre to back home. Not in this political environment," the senior Pentagon official said. His remarks were an evident-

allusion to the Pentagon's shrinking budget, and most recently the announcement by Secretary of Defence Los Aspin that he is closing many American military such assistance would enable navy, page 5

bases. Currently, the U.S. stores a modest amount of military equipment in Israel. However, beyond shrinking

budgets some Israeli ideas are seen as running contrary to U.S. regulations regarding the non-proliferation of balistic missiles. According to the U.S. Enhanced Proliferation Control Initiative (EPCI), the U.S. does not want to help countries which are developing "dual use" technolo-gy that could have both civilian or military applications.

The unsuccessful meetings were held between U.S. Under-Secretary of Defence for Policy Frank Wisner and Defence Ministry director-general David Ivri. Among the ideas not accepted, Rabin and aides wanted the Pentagon to enable Israel Aircraft Industries to bid on a contract for commercial satellite launchers; a deal that could be worth hundreds of millions of dollars to Israel.

However, U.S officials fear Mississippi builds ship for Israeli

Israel to bolster its own space program and could be used for non-commercial purposes, American sources say.

Another issue was American

interpretation of the international agreement that Israel reluctantly signed, the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). When Israel said that certain technology should be allowed to be transferred under existing guidelines, the Pentagon said it read the rules differently, the American sources indicated. The source say Israel must keep trying to convince the U.S. that Jerusalem will not transfer such technology to a third party.

Israeli military official would only say, "We are hoping that the goodwill between the two leaders will translate into concrete things in dealings with the bureaucracy. All I can say now is that things are complicated."

When asked for reaction, an

Mubarak launches religious drive against militants

Muslim militants fighting to over-throw him making a sudden pil
"If we followed the principle of throw him, making a sudden pilgrimage to Mecca and appealing

Saudi radio said Mr. Mubarak arrived in Mecca, where the Prophet Mohammad proclaimed morning to the Grand Mosque. It added that Mr. Mubarak met King Fahd, a close political ally, but said nothing of what they

discussed. The president's spiritual campaign follows a new ruthlessness in police action against militants which has made March the bloodiest month in a year of rising politic violence in Egypt.

At least 42 people have been killed and 83 injured in assaults by police and intelligence services on a mosque packed with militants in the southern resort of Aswan and on slum apartments used by militants in Cairo and Assiut.

Mr. Mubarak used the last Friday in the holy Month of Ramadan to demonstrate his own Islamic credentials and appeal for a return to human values which he said would defeat extremism. He prayed in the 1,000-year-

old Azhar Mosque, listened to winners of a Koran-reciting competition and gave prizes to preachers and scholars from астоss the Muslim world including Afghan Mujahedeen leader of their people have died of bghatullah Mojadidi.

"If we followed the principle of the sanctity of humankind, this heart-rending, unjust aggression against the life, land and property of others would not happen and people would not commit these crimes of murder and robbery

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has launthe hands of others, pretended, ched a religious offensive against Muslims," he said in a speech

venerating freedom, every belief for his own vision of a tolerant and thought would respect the other and it would be known that 'there is no compulsion in religion' because belief only happens by conviction, it cannot be Islam 1,400 years ago, Friday brought about by force. Faith is night and went on Saturday not fixed in the heart by the edge of a sword."

Police renewed their raids Saturday in Assiut, a university town 325 kilometres south of Cairo which was one of the birthplaces of the militant movement Al Gama'a Al Islamiva (Islamic Group) in the 1970s and the scene of an uprising in 1981 after President Anwar Sadat was assassin-

Security sources said police shot dead one suspected militant, a 21-year-old student who opened fire when officers game to arrest him, and detained 50 other people for questioning.

Mr. Mubarak said failure to observe the values of Islam had led to famine and war, apparently referring to the misery caused by civil war in Sudan and Irao's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

"If we followed the principle of brotherly ties, we would not find division and the ugly failure in economic conditions and in social levels between parts of our nation, which has reached the point in some countries that thousands starvation, dry skins on sapless bones," he said.

"If we followed the principle of just peace, some of the sons of our nation would not have become involved in illegitimate, aggressive, expansionist or vengeful wars," he said.



nel carrier stationed in Algiers as part of an increased security presence in the Algerian capital

in the wake of a new spate of militant violence targetting senior officials and politicians (AFP photo)

Khartoum joins rebel-announced truce

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan postponed a planned military offensive and declared a ceasefire in the war torn south in response to a unilateral truce proclaimed by southern rebels.

The armed forces general command announced the positive response to the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) initiative in a televised statement. It said the ceasefire was aimed at creating an atmosphere conducive to success in peace talks expected soon.

The statement said the ceasefire took effect immediately despite preparations under way for a summer offensive. Last year, the army retook control of a large number of rebel-held towns during a spring and summer drive. Success in that offensive was due mainly to the weakened position of the SPLA because it had lost its support base in Ethiopia

and was torn by internal splits. Two splinter groups remain outside the overall rebel command headed by army turncoat Colonel Johan Garang, who announced the rebel ceasefire. The government announcement apparently stops operations against all three groups, but that was not specified.

The statement warned the SPLA against trying to take military advantage of the truce "as it has done in previous ceasefires."
It also said the ceasefire would not affect army administrative and logistical activities or the transportation of relief goods.

Any attempt to endanger these movements or to exploit this declaration for military preparations across the border or for achieving military advantage would be regarded as a violation of the ceasefire," the statement

Such moves "would be dealt

with decisively," it said, partly to protect "the efforts for peace which began to show up in many areas of south Sudan.

Fighting has brought famine to wide areas of southern Sudan. At least 500,000 people have died, and hurdreds of thousands more remain at risk. Relief operations are hampered by the war.

Col. Garang set no time limit in announcing the ceasefire a week'

Neither did the government announce a time limit. But it claimed the rebel agreement was valid only until the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan which should end Wednesday.

The SPLA, manned mostly by ethnic African Christians and animists, took up arms in 1983 against the Arab-descended, Muslim-dominated government, demanding economic administra-

> Ostensibly, the government is postponing the voting because it needs time to finalise voter lists and print new ballots, the socialist-backed opposition newspaper Liberation reported Fri-

Opposition parties, complaining of widespread government frand in nationwide local elections in October, have pulled out of a commission set up to super-

vise the election. They also scorn the government's claim of needing more time to prepare for the voting. The parliamentary election was

to have been 1990, but was repeatedly postponed in order to hold a referendum on the disputed Western Sahara, a huge ex-Spanish territory claimed by Morocco.

That referendum, to determine the wishes of its residents towards independence, still has not been held, but the government now says delays are unrelated to that

Recent schedules had a new parliament to have been elected in December, then in April. Opposition groups in fact had criticised the choice of April 30 as it would interfere with labour groups' preparations for May

Électroral reforms has pushed the number of seats in parliament up from 306 to 327.

Postal workers strike

Hardline Moroccan trade unions said a 24-hour strike Friday in the posts and telecommunications office (ONPT) was an

almost total success. They estimated that between 82 per cent and 98 per cent of the 20,000 employees obeyed the strike call.

However, residents said there was no major disruption of mail deliveries and most post offices were open for business as usual. Telephone engineers were also on the job.

Algerian official dies of wounds

ALGIERS (AP) — A high-ranking government official has died social affairs, was slightly wounded in a different assassination of head wounds suffered in an Police officers bearing attack blamed on Muslim gunmachineguns guarded Mr. Flici's men, authorities said Friday, the funeral, blocking roads two third victim in a wave of assaskilometres from the cemetery, sinations this week of governwhere several members, of the ment figures. ruling High State Council attended the ceremony.

There have been no arrests and no claim of responsibility, but police blame the attacks on armed Islamic extremists believed behind continued attacks on police and soldiers.

Hafid Senhadri, a member of the military-installed government's top advisory body and chief of staff to the Ministry of Vocational Training, never emerged from a coma after being shot Sunday by gunmen hiding in a stairwell at his home. Mr. Senhadri died late Thurs-day at the 'Ain Naadja military

hospital near Algiers, the authorities reported, cited by state radio and the official APS news agency. Mr. Senhadri was the first of four prominent Algerians target-ted in a wave of assassinations

this week. Laadi Flici, a prominent doc-tor, and Djilali Liades, a former education minister, were shot and killed in separate attacks. Tahar

Hamdi, minister for work and

Moroccan

postponed

RABAT (AP) — Elections for a

new parliament, repeatedly de-

layed since 1990, have been put

off for another two months, gov-

Balloting set for April 30 has been rescheduled for June 25,

according to the sources, who

would not be further identified.

They gave no other information

other than to say a "consensus" was reached with the govern-

rnment sources said Friday.

elections

300 policemen and soldiers over the past year in an underground war that has claimed more than The gunmen are widely believed to be carrying out the orders of Ali Belhadj, an impris-oned leader of the banned Islamic

Authorities say Muslim ex-tremists have killed more than

Salvation Front (FIS), to carry out a holy war against the regime. Police reported Friday that an Islamic leader and two police officers were killed in the Algiers

region Tuesday on Wednesday.
The Muslim militant, identified as Abdul Haq Layada, deputy leader of a large armed Islamic group, was said to have killed one police officer in an ambush and

the other in a shootout a day later

that claimed his life.

sultative committee, an advisory body created by the military. backed ruling council last year to broaden public participation in

government. The ruling High State Council was installed by the army in January 1992 in a coup that de-

nied the FIS a certain victory in parliamentary elections. The party has since been ban-ned and its leaders jailed or ex-iled. Despite ever harsher security measures, the national police

daily attacks by fundamentalist The latest wave of attacks has shifted from policemen and soldiers to prominent figures linked to the government, especially

and army have failed to quell

anti-fundamentalist intellectuals. Defence Minister Khaled Nezzar, the regime's strongman, escaped an apparent assassination attempt in February when a carbomb exploded near his

Mohammad Boudiaf, a hero of Algeria's war for independence from France and the High State Council's first president, was shot and killed by a bodyguard last Mr. Senhadri and Mr. Flici summer. The soldier was reboth sat on the 60-member con-

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

American University of Beirut gets new chief

BEIRUT (R) - The American University of Beirut elected Robert Haddad as its president Friday. He is the first Arab-American to hold the post. Dr. Haddad, a professor of 'Middle Eastern history and religion at Smith College in Massachusetts, succeeds Frederic Herter, the university said in a statement. His election for a six-year term was made by the board of trustees in New York effective July 1. Until a ban on U.S. citizens travelling to Lebanon is lifted, American administrators work out of the university's New York offices. The university was founded in 1866.

Bomb blasts hit PLO officers' cars

SIDON, Lebanon (R) -- Bomb blasts hit the cars of two Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officers in South Lebanon Friday, destroying the vehicles but causing no casualties, security sources said. They said the first bomb wrecked the car of Ibrahim Al Hajj. a lieutenant of the PLO's mainstream Fateh group, in the southern port city of Tyre. The second bomb destroyed the car of Ismail Abu Al Ai'nain in Jal Al Bahar Palestinian refugee camp near Tyre. The sources said the blasts were linked to a power struggle between Fateh and the Fateh Revolutionary Council, led by guerrilla leader Abu Nidal. Seven Palestinian guerrillas have been killed this year in the inter-Palestinian feud. More than 25 where killed in 1992.

islamic group's arms found in Somalia

MOGADISHU (R) — U.S. soldiers in Somalia have found a large arms cache hidden under bags of rice at a compound belonging to the Muslim fundamentalist organisation Al Ittihad, the U.S. military said Saturday. The soldiers searched the compound in the coastal town of Merca, 80 kilometres southwest of Mogadishu, Friday after hearing shots from inside, a military spokesman said. Al Ittihad is a religious and political movement which receives most of its money from the Gulf. It also distributes relief food and provides medical services. The U.S. military spokesman said the arms cache contained 15 assault rifles, 20 submachineguns, seven uns, three mortars, 20 military radios and two small missiles. He said the compound had been under observation for some time but until they heard the shots the U.S. Army had not reason to search it.

MPs ask italy to recall Iran ambassador

ROME (R) — Italian opposition parliamentarians Friday asked Italy to recall its ambassador to Iran following the murder of an Iranian dissident in Rome this week. The 35 MPs of the Republican Party, in an appeal published in the party newspaper, said the government must take steps to dispel a belief that Italy was an "open zone" for acts of violence. They asked the Rome govern-ment to recall its ambassador to Tehran and to expel or place restrictions on Iranian representatives in Italy. The MPs said the measures were needed after Iranian dissident Mohammad Hussein Nagdi was shot down in a Rome street Tuesday. Mr. Nagdi, a former diplomat, was shot on his way to work by two gummen riding on a scooter. Police have found the murder weapon, but no trace of the killers. The opposition Iranian National Resistance Council, which Mr. Nagdi represented in Rome for the past 11 years, has accused Tehran of being behind his murder and called on Italy to close down the Iranian embassy. The embassy has flatly denied any links to Mr. Nagdi's murder, blaming it on factional fighting within the Iranian opposition. Iran's official news agency IRNA also said Tuesday the killing was probably the result of factional disputes among dissidents.

Bangladeshis observe Al Quds Day

DHAKA (AP) — About 1,000 Muslims burned American and Israeli flags after Friday prayers in a pro-Palestinian demonstration. A truck-load of police followed the protesters as they marched through Dhaka's streets to observe Al Quds (Jerusalem)
Day, which was declared on the last Friday of the Holy Month of Ramadan. The protest was called by Al Quds Committee, a group of Iranian-backed Muslim fundamentalists. The protesters also shouted slogans condemning killings of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina and in Kashmir, India. Bangladesh is a predominantly Muslim nation of 111 million people.

Egypt violence points to deep problems

By William C. Mann The Associated Press

CAIRO — President Hosni Mubarak says Islamic fundamentalism in Egypt is an international problem. But many critics say the violent movement emerged because of corruption, unemployment and growing middle class despair at home.

Whatever the causes, the stakes are high. Egypt is the traditional leader of the Arabs, Washington's best Arab friend, and the only Arab country linked by treaty with Israel.

An antagonistic Islamic government in Cairo could be catastrophic for the West, especially given the hardline Muslim government in neighbouring Sudan and fundamentalist movements operating in Algeria and else-

In recent months, religious extremism has seeped through the Nile Valley from Aswan near the Sudan border to Alexandria on the Mediterranean. The state has applied increasingly harsh countermeasures.

"There's been a proliferation of military mentality in all branches of Egyptian life." said analyst Nabil Abdul Fattah. That precludes a political solution, he said. and "we're left with either a Muslim or a military solvtion."

The current upsuige by the extremist organisation Al Gama'a Al Islamiya (Islamic Group) began early last year. More than 130 people have died in extremist violence or

in government reaction to it. Some commentators use variations on the word "war" to describe the conflict.

Mr. Mubarak's government says it is winning, though Mr. Mubarak believes extremism is an "international phenomenon, contaminating the whole world" and requires a global response, according to his Abdul Moneim.

But it is no longer unusual to read commentators in the government-owned press conselling increased attention to the causes of the movement, rather than relying on violence to put it down, or blaming other countries.

Even the governor of strife-torn Assiut province, Major General Hassan Al Alfi, says jobs are vital to fighting extremism.

"The reason we're having trouble with these groups is that the economic and social conditions are deteriorating for the middle class," political scientist Mustafa Kamel Ai Sayyed said. Even if superior govern-

ment firepower prevails. Mr. Sayyed said, "if the causes that led to extremist violence in the first place are not dealt with, these groups or new groups will come up again." The violence began in Gen. Alfi's southern province in 1981.

Islamic extremists killed Anwar Sadat in Cairo, then tried to take Assitt to use as a platform for overthrowing the government. Scores of people, mostly policemen,

died in gun battles before the coup was put down.

Assiut remains the most active region for fundamentalism. Police killed 10 suspects there in a huge shootout Wednesday.

Gen. Alifi said the extremists can be beaten. To do it, he said, Egypt must stop infiltration, provide jobs, increase security and "preach the correct versions of Islam," he said in the government newspaper Al Ahram

weekly. Besides the gun, the gov ernment's principal tool against the militants is government-sponsored reli-Cairo's Al Azhar mosque

has been Islam's centre of learning for 1,000 years. The rector, Sheikh Gad Al Haq Ali Gad Al Haq, holds | cabinet rank within the Egyptian government.

"We are not secular people, and Egypt is not a secular country," Sheikh Gad Al Haq recently told Islamic scholars. "Secular people believe that religion is just a question of faith. ...if some religions comply to this point of view, Islam is not like them, it is religion and gov-

Najiib Mahfouz, the Egyptian Nobel Prize winning novelist, wrote in his newspaper column of the awakening within the faith.

"We initially welcomed this Islamic awakening. It never occurred to us to fear what it might do to our modern heritage," Mr. Mahfouz wrote.

Instead, he said, it brought "authoritarianism, corruption, military defeats, economic crises, injustice and nepotism (and) a considerable degree of extremism."



Egyptian security forces stand guard in central Assint, 400 kilometres south of Cairo after a

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO .. Les Clés de Fort Boyard News in French 19:30 28:00 News in Arabic Who's the Boss 21:16 Equinox News in English

PRAYER TIMES

(Sunrise) Duba 05:35 11:43

CHURCHES

L. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellich, Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrananta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annuaciation Terracental Church of 623541, Armenian 771331. Catholic Church Tel.

an Orthodox Church Tel. Armeni 775261. St. Ephratm Church Tel. 771751. un International Church Tel. 682208. Evangelical Latheran Church Tel: 824328. The Church of Joses Christ of Latter Day Saints Tcl. 823824, 654932 Charch of Nasarene Tcl.675691.

WEATHER

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It will be partly cloudy with a chance of scattered showers of rain in the northern parts of the Kingdom, and a slight drop in temperatures is ex-pected. Winds will be northwesterly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, it will be fair, and winds will be not

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Aqaba 21, Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent, Aqaba 31 per USEFUL TELEPHONE

NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY** AMMAN: Dr. Bahjat Bader Dr. Hisham Kana 790286 Dr. Yahga Abdul Rahim Dr. Mahmoud Al Hindi 898787 First pharmacy Ferdows pharmacy 778336 Al Asema pharmacy Nairouch pharmacy Al Salam pharmacy Yacoub pharmacy Shineisani pharmacy 637055 623672 636730 644945 637660 847632 RED:

ZARQA; Dr. Misbah Al Hijjawi Khalifeh pharmacy EMERGENCIES Food Control Centre Civil Defence Department Civil Defence Immediate 630341

Fire Brigade. Blood Bank Blood Bank Highway Police Traffic Police 843402 896390 Traffic Pouce
Public Security Department
Hotel Complaints
Price Complaints 661176 Water and Sewerage 897467 787111 Telephone Information (directory assistance) Overseas Calls Central Amman Telephone . 010230 Jordan Television ... Radio Jordan 77311 77411t . 815615

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Zarqa National Hospital ...
Ibn Sina Hospital
Al Hikus Modem Hospital Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Ibn Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100 Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL

AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information depart-ment at the Queen Alia International Airport Tcl. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. ARTIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

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Crown Prince turns 46

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saturday March 20 marked the 46th birthday of His Royal Highnesss Crown Prince Hassan. The younger brother of His Majesty King Hussein and heir to the throne, Prince Hassan was born in Amman in 1947. He was proclaimed Crown Prince by Royal Decree in

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REF PRICE

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clections.

Throughout, the Crown Prince has played a vital role in in the process of development

In the past year, Prince Hassan was active at the international and domestic levels taking part in conferences and seminars, where his addresses often focused on the issues of human rights, a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, and a new concept of strategic policy that directs attention to social, economic and environmental

King decorates U.N. general

King Hussein has awarded Jordan's highest military medal to French General Philippe Morillon in recognition of his bravery as U.N. Commander in Bosnia, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Saturday.

In a telegramme to French President Francois Mitterrand, King Hussein thanked him for France's role in U.N. operations in Bosnia and asked him to present General Morillon the Al-Kawkab first class medal.

The King wrote President Mitterand that the bestowing of the medal was "in recognition of the courageous personal contribution and principled stand of General Philippe Morillon in upholding the principle that aggression cannot stand and in bringing to the world the torment and suffering of the people in Bosnia and Hercegovina and most vividly in Srebren-

General Morillon set up headquarters last week in the Muslim. town of Suebrenica, under siege



from Serb forces, and vowed not to leave until U.N. aid got through to the inhabitants. He led a relief convoy into the

town on Friday after lengthy negotiations with Serb forces and left on Saturday with a convoy evacuating 100 wounded women and children, according to Serb

Sharif Zeid reviews Lockerbie standoff with Libyan minister

pute with the Western countries over the Lockerbie affair and Jordanian-Libyan cooperation in economic fields were at the centre of discussions held in Amman Saturday between Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Libay's Foreign Minister Omar

Al Muntasser The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Mr. Muntasser, who arrived here earlier in the day, briefed the Prime Minister on the outcome of a seven-Arab foreign ministers meeting in Tunis to discuss the Lockerbie issue.

The foreign ministers were quoted by diplomatic sources in Tunis earlier as saying that Libya had offered to turn over two men wanted by the United States and Britain to a neutral country for trial in the bombing of a Pan Am passenger jet over Lockerbie, Scotland on December 22, 1988.

Washington, Paris and London suspect Libya of ordering the mid-air bombings.

Reports from Tunis said Friday

that Arab foreign ministers had agreed to relay to the United Nations new proposals from Libya to break its deadlock with the West over the airline bomb-

ings.

But Arab diplomats said the proposals did not change Libya's basic position — that suspects would be surrendered only if they were to stand trial on neutral

The foreign ministers met in

Tunis on Thursday night and Friday for a fresh attempt to resolve the standoff.

The U.N. Security Council imposed an air and arms embargo on Libya last year in an effort to force the surrender of two men suspected of blowing up the

Following the meeting, attended by Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber as well as the Libyan ambassador to Jordan and Jordan's ambassador to Libya, Mr. Muntasser said his discussion with Sharif Zeid tackled general Arab issues and topics of common concern to Jordan and Libya. Asked to comment on the reported Libyan offer to the West to help end the crisis over the Lockerbie affair, the Libyan official declined to give details.

"I cannot go into details about this issue and prefer to leave the matter to the Arab League secretary general to divulge them," Mr. Muntasser responded.

But he added that Libya was committed to the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 783 over this issue.

Mr. Muntasser expressed hope that the Arab countries would soon find appropriate means to unify their ranks and end their

Dr. Abu Jaber had met earlier with the Libyan official and discussed Jordanian-Libyan relations and Arab affairs.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Iranian president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable of good wishes to Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani on Nowruz Feast. He wished the Iranian president continued good health and the Iranian people further progress and prosperity.

Crown Prince leaves for Vienna

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday left for Vienna on a private visit to Austria. Prince Hassan was seen off at the airport by Princes Faisal Ben Al Hussein and Ghazi Ben Mohammad as well as Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki, Private Chamberlain Prince Ali Ben Nayef and senior officials along with the Austrian ambassador to Jordan.

remembers Karameh

AMMAN (Petra) - Jordan Sunday observes the 25th anniversary of Al Karameh Battle which took place in 1968 when Israeli troops, supported by armoured vehicles. combat planes and artillery, made incursions in the central Jordan Valley area.

The large scale, three-pronged Israeli attack covered an area of 40-kilometres, stretching from the Prince Mohammad Bridge in the north to the Dead Sea in the

The attack was aimed at occupying the eastern heights of the Jordan Valley (the Baiqa heights), in order to maintain tight control of the region. It also aimed to terrorise the

The large number of troops and personnel who took part in the Israeli attack was clear evidence of the Jewish state's expan-

local residents of the area into

sionist policies. Taking part in the battle on the Israeli side were two armoured brigades, one infantry and one paratroop unit, five artillery battalions, four squadrons of fighter planes and a number of helicopters, in addition to two combat divisions.

Despite the large number of military personnel and the air and artillery cover, the battle turned out to be a complete defeat for the Israelis, who were forced to withdraw under the cover of night because of the fierce resistance by the Jordan Armed Forces.

Israeli losses during the battle were three times higher than its losses during the June 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

On the occasion, His Majesty King Hussein received congratulatory cables from Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb, Public Security Department Director Major General Fadel Ali Fheid, and Director General of the Civil Defence Department Major General Afif Al Ghoul.

By Rana Sabbagh

Reuters

AMMAN — The U.N. Relief

and Works Agency (UNRWA)

for Palestinian Refugees said

it is considering charging refugees in Jordan token fees to

help it cope with a growing

The deficit will put more and

more strain on every aspect of

our operations, Dennis Brown,

head of (UNRWA) office in Jor-

grow while the budget remains

stagnant and the gap between both gets wider and wider. UNRWA Commissioner-

General Ilter Turkmen said in

Vienna last week that the agency

The population continues to

dan, told Reuters.

Islamic Action Front condemns terrorism but warns West against 'war against Islam'

By P.V.Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's most powerful Islamic movment Saturday condemned terrorism of all forms and shapes, but combined the condemnation with a warning to the West against what it described as waging a war against

Ishaq Al Farhan, president of the Islamic Action Front (IAF), rejected media suggestions that the Feb. 26 bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York could have been carried out by a Muslim group.
"Islam is a religion of peace

and does not condone terrorism in any form or shape," said Dr. Farhan, addressing a press con-ference held at the IAF's headquarters.

"Even before charges were filed (against the suspects in the case), the Zionist-inspired media have tried and convicted Islam," said Dr. Farhan, a member of the

Upper House of Parliament.
Two Arab Muslims, both of Palestinian origin, were formally

"aiding and abetting" the blast, which killed six people and wounded over 1,000.

U.S. officials and newspapers have suggested that the suspects, as well as several others sought in the case, are linked to a hardline Egyptian cloric who preaches at a New Jersey mosque.

The media reports, Dr. Farhan said, preempt a fair trial of the case in court.

The Zionist circles have trapped the Americans and Europeans into believing that Islam poses the biggest threat to humanity," he said, and referred to "anti-Islam" comments by U.S. and European officials in the wake of the trade centre

"We condemn all forms of terrorism, whether individualfactional- or state-sponsored," he said. "Terrorism is against all teachings of Islam.'

Dr. Farhan, said the "only beneficiary" from the World Trade Centre bombing was Israel and suggested that "Zionist hands" could be behind the blast



Ishaq Al Farhan

in a bid to "tarnish the image of Islam and Muslims everywhere, particularly Palestine, and shift the attention away from the (Palestinian) expellees" in South

"They want to paint the Arabs and Muslims as terrorists and the Palestinian struggle as terrorism," he said. "Isn't it the right of the Palestinian people to resist the (Israeli) occupation of their land just as the French had the right to resist (the German) occupation (during World War

According to Dr. Farhan, the

Islam and Muslims" prompted by fears that Islam would replace socialism," which ended with the collapse of the Soviet Union and the East bloc.

The identity of Islam and the Arab World is under attack, and we should resist the assault with all our might," he said.

The purported anti-Islam campaign, he argued, started with the Gulf war against Iraq and continues with "what is happening in Palestine, Bosnia, Kashmir, Somalia, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, the Philippines, Burma, India and wherever Muslims live."

Dr. Farhan noted that the main theme that Israeli President Chaim Herzog took to European capitals during a recent visit was the threat posed to humanity by Islam" and that several European leaders appear to have picked up the slogan.
Dr. Farhan said: "Let the

West, led by the U.S. and Zionists, be warned against pursuing aggressive polices against Islam

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has

voiced its total opposition to any

lief and Works Agency (UN-

RWA) to reduce its services to

Palestinian refugees if the agency

did not receive additional con-

tributions to cover the projected

move by the United Nations Re-

population, an enemy.
"Islam is a reality and it is here to stay. Nobody can eliminate it

with military weapons and conspiracies. The way to deal with it people and their wishes." Dr. Farhan and Abdullah Akaileh, a member of the Lower

House of Parliament representing the Muslim Brotherhood bloc called on the media to counter the "offensive against Islam." "This is war," said Dr.

Both politicians condemned the spate of extremist attacks

against tourists in Egypt, but s qualified that denunciation by n accusing the Cairo government of waging a "war of annihilation" against Islamic movements in the

"How will anyone react to the murder of his own family members by security forces of a regime which practices state terrorism?" asked Dr. Akaileh, citing last week's police stormings of a mosque in the southern Egyptian town of Aswan residences in and making Muslims, who constitute one-fifth of the world killed in the assaults.

The UNRWA statistics said the

The expected plan by UN-a

total number of registered re-c fugees alone stood at 1.787 mil n

RWA to reduce the services to

the refugees was revealed to the

commission meeting in Vienna or March 15 by UNRWA Commissioner-General Ilter

Turkmen, who said that the agen-

cy's financial crisis coincides with

growing demands on services par-

RWA's field of operations either

in Jordan, Syria or Lebanon, as

was the case prior to the move to's

JD 325,000 raised so far in 3rd annual charity drive

Highness Princess Basma Saturday announced that the Third Annual Charity Campaign to help needy families in Jordan has so far raised JD 325,000 and was expected to collect JD350,000 by the end of the month of Rama-

Addressing a press conference to report on the campaign, Princess Basma said the drive would not have achieved such success without the active help of nearly 15,000 volunteer boyscouts and girl guides, the Ministry of Education, private schools, com-

services if it did not receive addi-

tional contributions to cut a \$28.5

million deficit in its \$300 million

health and social services to ab-

out 2.7 million Palestinian re-

fugees in the Israeli-occupied

West Bank and Gaza Strip, as

Mr. Brown said UNRWA's

rowth of up to five

well as in Jordan, Syria and Leba-

hiring of new physicians and

teachers this year would not meet

the increased demand from

per cent in Palestinian communi-

ties, further reducing the quality

He said UNRWA was looking

into prospects of making refugees pay a small fee for its health

of health and education.

The agency offers education,

budget for this year.

population

as well as the industrial and commercial sectors.

The campaign will continue until the end of the holy month and it is hoped that more donations will be collected, said the Princess, who is also Honorary Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF).

The Princess said in last year's campaign, QAF collected JD 115,000 adding that the increase achieved this year will help QAF to add more needy families

services and vocational training

programmes in Jordan to help

It is better to try and raise a

small amount of money than to

actually cut the service, Mr.

Brown said. "We know they (the

refugees) are not going to be

happy, but what is our alterna-

made on the amount of the prop-

osed fees or when they might be

ficit has widened because key

Western donors have not pledged

more money as most of them

were trying to trim their own

budget deficits and help fund new

relief operations like those in

famine-hit Somalia and in Bos-

The three other political par-ties, granted publishing licences

under the same circumstances

were Suleiman Arar's Al Mustak-

bal Party, Abdul Hadi Al Ma-jali's Al Ahd Party and Tayser Al

Zibri's the Jordan People's

of the Press and Publications

According to Rasmi Mahasna

He said no decision had been

Mr. Brown said UNRWA's de-

may ask fees from refugees

offset the deficit.

committee, led by Mamdouh Abbadi, to supervise the distribution of the donations.

She added that the QAF programme included the initiation of a number of income-generating projects in some areas.

In thanking the various organisations and the media that extended help in the charity drive. Princess Basma said the aid programme was intended to foster the concept of social solidarity among the members of the Jordanian society during Ramadan.

An offer by Iragi President

Saddam Hussein to donate \$50

million in oil revenue to UN-

RWA is unlikely to be approved

by the U.N. Sanctions Commit-

tee which has enforced a sweep-

ing trade ban against Baghdad

since its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

UNRWA had begun cutting

administrative costs in an effort

to slash the deficit by half. He

said none of those measures had

affected services to the refugees

But he said cuts affecting ser-

UNRWA officials said the

vices could be expected if donors

failed to come up with the short-

agency was putting particular emphasis on appealing for funds from the Gulf Arab states which

now contribute only about 1.5 per

The United States and the

European Community provide most of UNRWA's funds.

cent of its budget.

Mr. Brown said Vienna-based

1993 budget, according to Adel Irsheid, director of the Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs. Speaking upon his return here Saturday from a meeting in Vienna by the agency's advisory com-

ticularly in Lebanon and the occupied West Bank and the mission, Mr. Irsheid said the Gaza Strip. Jordanian delegation pointed to Referring to other Jordanian the dangers inherent in such a ideas put forth at the Vienna move resulting from a deficit in meeting, Mr. Irsheid said in order the agency's budget. to cut down on administrative He said a reduction of UNexpenses, Jordan demanded the RWA's services to the refugees transfer of the agency's headquarters from Vienna to UN

Jordan opposes cuts to

UNRWA services

would naturally mean an increase of burdens on the Arab governments hosting the refugees, particuarly Jordan which hosts the majority of them. According to UNRWA's latest statistical report, nearly 39

Jordan has also proposed that an urgent appeal be issued to thee per cent of the total number of donor nations to increase theist Palestinian refugees live in the contributions to UNRWA andthat the agency's budget be sub-n mitted for study at the Unitec. Kingdom, with the rest dispersed over the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Lebanon and Syria. Nations, Mr. Irsheid said.

WHAT'S GOING ON

e listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed ri time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

Scientific exhibition of projects designed by students at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), including computers and computer programmes, at JUST.

Exhibition entitled the Memory of Silk, displaying traditional Jordanian and Palestinian costumes, shawls, carpets, pottery copperware, from the Widad Kawar collection — at the French

may soon be forced to reduce its president

visits Jordan

Women's Christian Association (YWCA) World President Razia Ismail is on a special visit to Jordan and was received Saturday by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma at the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund, together with President of YWCA-Jordan Leila Najjar and

Miss Ismail was elected president in World YWCA Council meeting in Norway in 1991 when 75 YWCAs were represented.

10 council members.

Miss Ismail, who is Chief of External Relations and Public Affairs of the India Country Programme at United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) in New Delhi, believes that women's best path to their own progress is to get involved in the broader issues of development. According to Miss Ismail her personal commitment as president is to give the deepest possible meaning to the World YWCA's attainment of its first 100 years to service in 1994, through expressing in concrete terms its policy statement on participatory development in its advocacy and action, from world level to the simplest local comnumity activity.

Miss Ismail, who is Indian, is a former journalist and is active in

human rights issues.
The World YWCA is continuing its efforts in appealing for the unconditional return of Palestinians expelled by Israel.

Cabinet approves 4th party paper

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Cabinet approved Saturday granting a li-cence to the Jordan Democratic Progressive Party (JDPP) to issue a weekly newspaper to be named Al Maseera (The March).

The newspaper, which was licensed in the name of the party's Secretary General Ali Amer, is the fourth political publication to be licensed under interim arrangements with the government pending the enactment of the new press and publications

The 1973 law provides for licences to be issued to a Jordan Press Association member, a uni-

versity graduate, a press establishment or a news agency.

Department, four other parties are awaiting Cabinet approval to issue their weekly newspapers. These are Yacoub Zayadeen's "Al Jamaheer" of the Jordan Communist Party, Mijhem Al Khreisheh's "Sawt Al Urdun" of the Jordan National Alliance and Tayseer Al Himsi's Arab Ba'ath

Democratic Party.

Socialist Party publication. Mr. Mahasna said all these publications were approved by The licence was granted in the the department, but are now name of Mr. Amer because he is waiting for Cabinet approval.

Islamic group urges support for Palestinians

Cultural Organisation (ISESCO) Saturday issued a statment in Amman denouncing the ongoing "criminal acts committed against the Palestinian people by the Israeli authorities."

The statement, issued in observance of the World Islamic Day for Palestine, appealed to the Islamic nations to extend support to the Palestinians to back efforts contributing to the cause of Jerusalem and Palestine. It urged the Arab and Islamic

AMMAN (Petra) — The Islamic countries to show and practice Educational, Scientific and solidarity with the Palestinian people and to extend material and moral assistance to the oppressed people under Israeli

> The statement called on all Muslims around the world to support the Palestinians to end the occupation and to help them attain self determination on Palestinian soil.

It also urged the Muslims to transcend their present differences and defend the Islamic shirnes in Palestine.

Jordan Times Tel: 667171



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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Piracy and diplomacy

S IT conceivable that Washington is still suffering from the

nangover of the Gulf war as far as Jordan is concerned? Over two years have lapsed since that war ended, and yet the U.S. is still treating this country as if we remain in the enemy's camp. The best evidence of this inexplicable attitude is the turning back of Aqaba-bound ships — three his month alone — carrying general cargo to Jordanian importers. The third vessel, a Sudanese-flag ship chartered a largely Jordanian government-owned shipping commy, has just been turned back to Port Suez and this latest interference with free shipping came on the heel of two similar episodes involving Norwegian and Sudanese cargo ships transporting non-military goods from Western countries. Coming as it does only hours after the conclusion of joint U.S.-Jordanian military manoeuvres, one is at a loss to plain the rationality behind this behaviour, particularly when the goods freighted to Jordan originated mostly in Western countries and the carrier, the National Shipping Lines, is 75 per cent government owned. If the U.S. government did take a complete stock of Jordan's policies, both domestic and external, one would have thought that Amman will be rewarded and not penalised for them.

To start with Jordan has abided faithfully and to the best of its ability by the U.N. Security Council sanctions imposed on Iraq. There is no such a thing as a fool-proof sanctions mechanism, no matter how hard countries try to enforce them. The Iragi borders with Iran and Turkey are nearly .. ide open with no significant reaction from the U.S. Picking on Jordan all the time when it has put into practice increasingly stiff measures to plug any existing loopholes is not something that augurs well for the role of Jordan in the ringoing peace process or with its determined efforts to aurture pluralistic democracy. Is it possible that in spite of he country's peaceful and progressive roles in the Middle East, there is still a determined effort to break the back of this country? How else can one interpret the persistent Forts to cut off the country's only sea outlet from the sutside world. Perhaps there is a bad communication line between the U.S. inspectors in the high seas and Washing con, and if this is the case it is high time that the U.S. State Department put an end to the over-exploited and abused veuse often offered by American Marines in the Tiran Straits that cargo destined for Jordan is inaccessible to easy inspection! The place to control and check cargo is at points of origin, if at all. Is there any doubt that British, French and other European exporters are observing the sanctions regime against Iraq? Some of the cargo intercepted originates in the U.S. itself, we might add. There must be a better way then to handle this problem other than bleeding Jordan to death. Otherwise this country must take effective counter measures including the overhaul of its foreign policies towards its presumably good friends and allies. Piracy in diplomatic relations would simply not work.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

SAWT AL SHAAB daily Tuesday discussed the stepped up campaign against the Aqaba-bound ships and demanded an immediate end to what it called arbitrary actions being taken by the foreign naval forces against Jordan. The naval forces have been jurning back vessels laden with tood stuff and other items for Jordan in flagrant violation of free maritime operations and in total disregard for Jordan's sovereignty, said the daily. This hardsorrent of Jordanian-bound shipping is meant as a dangerous move, manifesting a tendency to take revenge on Jordan for its mational stands and to pressure this Kingdom into succumbing to other made us' desires and whoms, said the daily. This harassement, it added, is bound to cause further economic hardships to the Kingdom which is overburdened with numerous headaches, it said. The paper said that in the space of one month the naval forces have turned back three cargo vessels carrying essential goods to Jordan under unconvincing pretexts. Jordan has been fully committed to the U.N. resolutions and has been honouring the embargo all along, especially with regard to the imported goods via Aqaba, the paper continued. It said that the naval blockade on Aqaha could be motivated by evil forces, hostile to the Kingdom and aiming to impoverish this country. One can only ask what objectives can be achieved by the U.S.-led naval forces through this continued harassment, knowing that the goods turned back are all essential food stuffs for the people of Jordan. The paper said that every possible way should be followed in order to real the international legitimacy and continuously honours all U.N. resolutions.

MAHMOUD RIMAWI, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily, demanded that Washington show more seriousness in matters related to the peace process in order to lure the parties to the talks. The writer said that Washington ought to stop playing the double standard role and adopt contradictory attitudes if it is really oriented towards activing a lasting peace in the Middle East. First and foremost, it writer said, Washington should see to it that Resolution 799 is implemented so that the Palestinians can be persuaded to go to the negotiations, feeling no embarassment before the Palestinian public. Washington should also make it clear tha illesolution 242 still forms the basis for any solution which storage be lasting, he said. The writer said that the Israelis should not be absolved of the sin of trying to impede progress in the pance process or of the attricities committed against the Palestaniums life said the Aral foreign ministers meeting in Damascus should make these demands clear to the U.S. administration and should get a favourable response before they the resumption of peace process.

Economic Forum

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

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Privatisation reappraised

I follow up, with keen interest, the application by economic policies of various theories, as this represents some sort of experimentation that verifies these theories and determines how fit they are to survive and to address factual challenges. Supply-side economics, currency devaluation in developing countries, and floating of interest rates are examples of this brand of academics. Privatisation is another one.

This Thatcher-initiated Reagan-backed policy device was enthusiastically received in various countries and quarters and by numerous shades of opinion. Although it has abated in the West and to a lesser degree in developing countries, privatisation is still in its prime in the socialist and ex-socialist countries. As with so many other things, privatisation is easier and nicer said than

practically applied. In Jordan, it is interesting to notice that we have not taken one actual step in the field of privatisation although we have talked volumes about it. However, this delay may be useful if we can benefit from the experience of other countries in this field.

"Euromoney" published in its April 1993 issue an opinion on the lessons learned from the privatisation experiments of various countries. The related article was written by an "American merchant banker based in London" under the nickname of Gallatin who chose to highlight the dangers of privatisation. The

following paragraphs present the essence of that opinion. Dangers that accompany privatisation may be macroeconomic dangers, which affect the country's economic viability or security, microeconomic dangers, that affect the health of the company being privatised, and dangers to the government's privatisation

process if it is inadequately managed. The cardinal danger is the threat of unemployment which materialises in almost all circumstances. Where unemployment is already a problem, privatisation can hardly be a consolation on whatever count. This applies to Jordan and is probably one reason why privatisation plans have not taken off.

Privatisation may cause the loss of control of a vital industry. In advanced economies, this poses less of a problem. In less advanced ones, it may be a mistake to let go too soon of a vital

Privatisation can cause disruption to the business being privatised. Small-scale businesses acquired by foreign or private investors may benefit. But in many other companies the results of lay-offs on a massive scale, the requirement to retool entire plants and the challenge of setting up new distribution systems will affect productivity over the long run. Indeed, the record of even

successful acquisitions in highly-industrialised economies is mixed

In the face of these three main dangers, Gallatin gives three major bits of advice. Governments must beware privatising lame-duck companies or companies in lame-duck industries. Second, they must be clear about their objectives which can range from receiving maximum privatisation proceeds to making an ideological break with state socialism; rarely only one objective is the motivating factor. Third, governments must decide whether the benefits of a privatisation outweigh the cost to society, especially in the likely level of unemployment that will ensue.

As time goes on, privatisation will become ever-more imprecise. It is the motivations of privatising governments which will determine the privatisations of the future. The failure of state-imposed economics rules out the option of central planning but it may, in time, expose the weaknesses of total free-market capitalism. Governments will begin to act like any other shareholder. They will manage their industrial participations through a holding company, selling and buying stakes primarily on the basis of industrial and financial logic. Privatisation, no panacea, will become one option among many, for buyers and sellers alike.

Middle East: Clinton takes a sharp turn

By Stephen S. Rosenfeld

Bill Clinton diverging more from George Bush's foreign policy than in the Middle East. Perhaps this will work out well in the end, but at the moment it looks as though Mr. Clinton, who has said he believes he has "a real shot" at peace, has not begun hitting the

To judge by results, Mr. Bush had the right formula: Be demanding but fair with both Israel and the Arabs, and intervene assertively to move things along on all fronts. This is how he and his secretary of state, James Baker, created constituencies for negotiation in all the key places and moved on to launch broad Arab-Israeli peace talks.

In style, Mr. Clinton has, as he promised he would, replace Mr. Bush's steely (and to many Israelis, unnerving), evenhanded detachment from Israel with a public embrace. For the moment, this has calmed the alarm that Israelis feel whenever the United States closes in to shape their fate. Mr. Clinton's rhetoric is cooperation in the relationship, and aid flows freely even in these

This week Mr. Clinton even repulsed an appeal by visiting President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt to seek a further "small from Israel on the boiling (for Arabs) issue of allowing the "immediate" repatriation of Palestinian deportees that the United Nations has ordered. Israel has already done "enough" to draw the Palestinians back to the peace table in Washington on April 20, Mr. Clinton said. The battered Mr. Mubarak was left to put a brave face on this rebuff to America's first friend in the Arab World.

In the substance of his diplomacy, Mr. Clinton seems to be stepping back from the Bush attempt to engage across the whole Arab-Israeli spectrum. Instead, he is moving towards an emphasis on a Syria-first strategy, leaving the Palestinians to be

Syria-first proceeds from a hard-headed reading - Yitzhak Rabin's reading — that Syria has lost its global patron, the Soviet Union, and has seen the shrinkage of its principal Arab rival, Iraq, and is ready for an American-expedited peace-for-territory swap on the model that Egypt and Israel fashioned 15

Prime Minister Rabin has, with some boldness, started preparing the Israeli public to work with

WASHINGTON - In no place is Damascus. He prefers his old partner in Israeli-Syrian disengagement in the 1970s, President Hafez Al Assad, to the divided Palestinians. Mr. Rabin is under voter pressure for not delivering a quick agreement on Palestinian autonomy, and he could expect to profit from an early negotiation

Meanwhile, Israel can always argue - this is the Middle East way — that turning to Syria and playing hard to get with the Palestinians is the best way to bring the Palestinians around.

You can see why Mr. Rabin and Mr. Clinton would be inclined to go down this road, especially if, as seems conceivable, Mr. Assad is prepared to cut a deal that leaves Palestinians in the lurch. Why should Israel be more solicitous of the Palestinians' interests than are their Arab brothers in Damascus?

It is a fair question, and there is a sobering answer: because Israel has far more at stake in accommodating the Palestinians than Syria does. For the Syrians the Israelis they are literally the bane of their existence. However tattered their policy and status at any given moment. Palestinians represent in Arab politics an overwhelming symbol of loss to western intrusion. Whether Palestinians can find their political way may be problematic. That Israel has a surpassing interest in

their political progress is not. Mr. Rabin looks at the favourable strategic circumstances, at Palestinian violence and division and at the gathering political clouds at home on his right. He is sorely tempted to go for the deal with Syria, as Menachem Begin went for the deal with Egypt, and to slow the dealing with the Palestinians. As short-term policy it is defensible.

But the United States has its own responsibilities as Israel's abiding friend and also as leading arbiter of Middle East stability. It should be using the strategic advantages to address the whole Middle East problem and not just part of it. It should be giving Israel the full and tough support that will enable it to take the further risks of engagement with the Palestinains. It should be extending, to coexistence- and democracy-minded Palestinians, respect for their political rights.

It has taken 15 years since Egypt and Israel made peace to get into position for a second slice. The opening is there if Mr. Clinton wants to help - The Washington Post.

Publishers bank on the awakening of Islam in Europe

By Tom Porteous

CAMBRIDGE, England — The esoteric logo of the Islamic Texts Society above the Green Street Bookshop in the heart of this ancient university city is a palm tree bearing two fat bunches of dates, with a crescent moon on one side and a burning sun on the other. The sign is made of finely worked metal coated in gold. Harking back to an earlier age of arcane symbolism, the insignia blends perfectly with the collegial medieval architecture and spiritual ethos of the university.

It is part of an eye for detail and excellence of design, which, in the decade since its foundation, has set the Islamic Texts Society among the most successful small publishing houses in Britain. In 1991 the society won a British Book Design Award for its English edition of the "innovation" of the innovation of the "innovation" of the innovation of the inn tions" of Hamid Al Ghazali, the 11th century Muslim theologian and mystic. This year, a new publication has been named winner of the same award, and the society is on the short list for the Sunday Times Small Publisher Award.

Such recognition from the arbi-ters of publishing standards in Britain is exceptional. It is all the more remarkable for a publishing house that specialises in Islamic theology and mysticism, with the standing of Islam in the West through publishing English translations of works of traditional importance to the faith and culture of Islam."

"The first aim," said society director Abd Al Rahman Azzam. "was to make available in a bookshop the vast corpus of Islamic literature which had never been available to western readers. There were plenty of books on Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, but nothing on medieval Islamic thought." It was in this spirit that, when it opened in 1981, the society started publishing translations of Al Ghazali's 40-volume "Revival of Religious Sciences," a seminal text of Islamic mystical theology. So far, three volumes have appeared.

"One day you will be able to get immediate access to the top thinkers of Islam in English," Mr. Azzam said. "You'll be able to go into a shop and pick up Al Ghazali in the same way as you can now pick up Plato or Aristo-

In addition to publishing about eight books a year, the society's Green Street bookshop stocks a wide range of books on Islam and the Muslim world. It claims to be able to supply customers all over the world with any available book on Islam. But, as the society's director explains, the founders and patrons of the Islamic Texts Society had another aim based on specific views about the changing role of Islam in the West and the there were quite a few Muslim

importance to Islam of the emerging community of Euroean Moslims.

"The second aim of the society," Mr. Azzam said, "was to provide a platform for western Muslims to prove that Islam is not a religion based in the East or an Arab religion, but a universal one. There are many British, European and American Muslims who want to articulate this, and the society has made available the works of modern western Muslims like Martin Lings — whose 'Life of the Prophet Mohammad' has been reprinted several times

- or Titus Burkhardt, Gal Eaton and European Muslim thinkers who wanted to express the mystical dimension that had attracted them to Islam." This aspect gives the Islamic Texts Society its distinctive quali-

ty, setting it apart from the majority of Islamic publishing houses. According to its regular Muslim customers, the high quality of the society's books, the awards and the prominent profile are indicative of the cultural importance, intellectual vitality and moral confidence of a new European Muslim community...
"What we are witnessing is the

birth of Islam in Europe," said Mr. Azzam, whose grandfather was a prominent Egyptian statesman and one of the founders of the Arab League. "It is very interesting and exciting because the leading intellectuals of Islam are now based in the West." He compares the phenomenon to the early spread of Islam in the 7th and 8th centuries in Persia. Africa and Spain, when the religion permeated and integrated with the culture of its host country.

"There is a great difference between Muslim Indonesian culture and Muslim African culture," Mr. Azzam said, "but it's all one religion. What is happening now is that you have a growing number of European Muslims in Europe, many of them of Asian or Arab parentage, but completely westernised, completely confident with the West. without the colonial complexes their grandfathers may have had or which Muslims in the Muslim World may still have. These western Muslims know exactly what they want. They can see that the West is crumbling morally. We are witnessing the birth of the European Muslim movement and

this society is one of its voices." Mr. Azzam sees no similarities between the Islamic awakening in Europe and the growth of Islamic fundamentalism in the Middle East and North Africa. Indeed, he says, political Islam may be one of the reasons why intellectual debate among Muslims in the Arab World is debased at present and much less dynamic and productive than is debate among Muslims in Europe. "If you look back fifty or a hundred years,

intellectuals in Egypt, which is supposed to be the intellectual centre of the Arab World," Mr. Azzam said. "Today, there are no Muslim thinkers or writers there worth their weight. The debate in the Muslim World is a purely political debate. People in government and opposition are using Islam as a political tool, just as they used to use Arab social-

According to Mr. Azzam, Muslim fundamentalism is the product of social and economic conditions. If conditions were improved, fundamentalism would cease to be a problem. "If you gave young people an opportunity to work, you would remove their frustrations, and they would stop agitating," he said. "What we do see in these Muslim coun-tries is an intellectual response to fundamentalism, which is sad."

Unburdened by pressing political, economic and social concerns, the Islamic debate in Europe has its starting point not in social and economic degradation but with the search of welleducated European Muslims for a spiritual path. With the majority the community of Asian or African descent, they find themselves caught between East and West, conversant with the customs and styles of both but looking for something universal that transcends regional and racial barriers. "Intellectually, they are looking for answers," Mr. Azzam said. "These people have chosen Islam because of its mystical dimensions and because they found that the Christian church. fragmented by the rearguard action it is fighting against secularism, no longer answers their needs. Through Islam, Muslims have articulated answers to specific questions, like how one can practice his faith in a secular

This rationale gives the publications of the Islamic Texts Society — and the books it stocks — a distinctly mystical flavour. In addition to Al Ghazali's "Revival of the Religious Sciences" (Thya' Ulum Al Din), the society's books include such classic titles as The Secret of Secrets" by the 12th century Muslim saint Abd Al Qadir Al Jilani; the famous Treatise on the Foundations of Islamic Jurisprudence" by Al Imam Al Shafi'i, who founded one of the four schools of Islamic law in the 2nd century of the Muslim era; Al Tabari's commentary on the Qur'an; and Imam Al Bayhaqi's "Seventy-Seven Branches of the Faith.

The society's modern titles include some of the most original, profound texts written on Islamic mysticism — many by European Muslims. Among this year's titles will be the first full English biography of the Andalusian mystic, Al Shaikh Al Akbar Mohieddin Ibn Arabi. A new work on the extraordinary Moroccan saint and hermit Moulay Abdessalaam

Abu Madyan is also planned. A new series of monographs on ---Muslim masters will give readers access to concise biographies of ',''
personalities who have shaped Islam, including founders of the religion, statesmen, thinkers, . travelers and reformers.

Another of this year's publications underline the society's ability to plug its spiritual agenda into more superficial market trends. When Mr. Azzam's grandfather was secretary general of the Arab League in the 1940s, he wrote a book on Islam called "The Eternal Message." Later, when he sal was at the United Nations, he par met Malcolm X, the Black American Muslim radical. The two apparently became friends, and, ; after reading "The Eternal Message," Malcolm X began to turn away from the radical, anti-white movement — the Nation of Islam - of which he had become a chief spokesman; he later moved towards a more spiritual inter- "-" pretation of Islam.

"This was the book that really changed Malcolm X's life," said 🕹 Mr. Azzam, who has republished his grandfather's book to coincide with the release of Spike Lee's ods gentroversial film biography; of mel Malgolm X. Aireatly; the Islame: Texts Society-has sold several _ copies of the book in prepublica.

The society, which was funded organisation, depended on donations from wealthy Muslims who support its agenda worldwide. Two years ago, the society became a commercial concern, and, judging from its present performance, Mr. Azzam predicts that within two or three years it will be breaking even. If correct, it will be a stunning achievement in a climate of economic recession that has hit the publishing world particularly badly.

Being based in the West, the society is aware that what attracts the westerner to Islam and what attracts the born Muslim living in the West looking for a spiritual path is the mystical dimension. The social dimension is simply missing here in the West," Mr. Azzam said, "so the vast majority of the books requested are those that speak of Islam as a spiritual path." Yet, Mr. Azzam added, with the spirituality of Islam taking root in the West, the social dimension may become more important as European Muslims permeate the society in which they live. "You're getting a lot of intellectual, middle-class jobs filled with ambitious, articulate Muslims, and this a very encouraging sign. In 30 or 40 years' time, you will have a lot of Muslims at different and important levels of society who will, through the democratic process, be able to influence and model society, just as the Jews have done for centuries" -- World

Ukraine likely to ratify START-I, problems remain

By John Morrison

KIEV - After months of delay. Ukraine now looks ready to ratify the START-I treaty, but uncertainty over the nuclear weapons left on its territory by the breakup of the Soviet Union is likely to

President Leonid Kravehuk has old Reuters that he expected parliament to begin discussing the treaty on April 21 or 22.3 It will be ratified. I have no

doubt at all," Mr. Kravchuk predicted. Officials told Reuters that closed committee hearings were

basically complete and parliament's presidium would decide by Monday whether to put the treaty on next week's agenda. It is not yet clear if parhament

called Lisbon Protocol signed a vear ago which commits Ukraine to giving up all its nuclear arms and joining the Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Ukraine's ratification of both documents would put in place a missing piece of a complex international arms control Jigsaw. Western diplomats in Kiev pre-

diet ratification on START-1, but they caution that big problems remain to be solved before all the nuclear weapons in Ukraine are finally dismantled sometime in

At stake are 130 SS-19 and 46 SS-24 multiple-warhead strategic missiles, and a number of airlaunched nuclear cruise missiles carried on TU-95 Bear and PU-160 Blackjack heavy bombers. Tactical nuclear arms were withwill simultaneously ratify the so- "drawn to Russia in 1992.

around 1,200 strategic missile warheads and more than 6(X) airlaunched cruise missile warheads in Ukraine.

Russia has accused Ukraine of trying to become a nuclear power through the back door by claiming ownership of the weapons, Mr. Kravchuk vigorously denied this in his interview, describing the Russian charges as "de-

liberate falsification." He said Ukraine was claiming ownership not of the warheads themselves, but only of "components" -- the valuable fissile material which Kiev hopes to recover when they are disman-

He scoffed at the idea of Ukraine hanging on to the missiles as an independent nuclear

According to the Moscow power — an idea which some newspaper Izvestia there are nationalist politicians have advonationalist politicians have advocated to bolster their country's security against Russia.

"Every sensible person knows

that all the electronic circuits, everything which controls the warheads are in Moscow and Ukraine can not change that, even if it wanted to.

"For Ukraine to have its own nuclear forces it would have to take the warheads off and replace them with its own, produced in Ukraine. We have neither the nuclear industry nor the intention to do this," Mr. Kravchuk said.

Mr. Kravchuk said Ukraine would continue to refuse demands from Moscow that the veapons, now under the command of the Commonwealth of

"A change of status would mean a host of political and legal problems. If the nuclear forces in Ukraine become Russian, then the forces servicing them would be Russian. So the problem arises of the status of troops of another state on Ukrainian territory." Mr. Kravchuk explained.

Ukraine's complaint is that the West, particularly the United States, is looking at the nuclear issue through Russian eyes and ignoring Kiev's security interests.

Mr. Kravchuk made clear he was bitter at strong diplomatic pressure from Washington to speed up ratification of START-I, which cannot enter into force

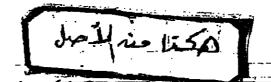
until Ukraine approves it. He also said that implementation of the treaty would depend Independent States, should be on Ukraine getting satisfaction on placed under Russian command, its demands for better security

guarantees and financial compensation for voluntarily renouncing the world's third biggest . nuclear arsenal.

"We will not take a single step hackwards, no matter whom it pleases or displeases. We are defending Ukrainian interests, he declared.

The U.S. has promised Ukraine \$175 million to help dismantle the weapons while Ukraine has mentioned sums running into billions of dollars. Ukraine is also unhappy with the level of security guarantees that the U.S. and other nuclear powers are prepared to offer.

Washington and Moscow want to push ahead with ratification of far deeper cut in nuclear arms agreed under the START-2 treaty, and are showing increasing imputience with Ukraine.



.Iordan committed to peace process

(Continued from page 1)

tiago last week. In reply to another question. the King said he was hoping that everyone would benefit from the lessons of the past and that dialogue will dominate dealings among nations.

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"I believe that there is a great need for the world community and the United Nations to adopt a sound and fair criteria applying
the same principles and standards
in all cases," he said.

"The world is facing a dangerover situation due to the

ous situation due to the existence of mass destruction weapons in the Middle East," the King said. "For example we have the case of a state in this region which has during 1993.

not yet ratified the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and has massed a great deal of nuclear weapons as we all know.

"We also continue to witness double standard dealings regarding different problems, a situation which we all hope to end in the future."

He expressed the view that as long as issues remain unresolved, the world would witness further proliferation of mass destruction weapons.

On the prospect of visiting Chile with Her Majesty Queen Noor, the King said he always had the desire to make the visit to that Latin American country. He expressed hope to make the visit

Group: Egyptian police torture children

(Continued from page 1)

centre for the detention and torutre of children - and of adults - was a security police camp at Kilometre 25 on the main desert highway from Cairo to Alexandria.

It said two boys aged 15 and 16, Mohammad and Ashraf Al Zayyat, had been tortured there more than three weeks.

They were subjected to severe torture which went on for 23 days which included beatings with coiled wire and hanging in different positions and electric shocks

to the genitals," the report said. They were forced to stand naked in the court of the prison during the late hours of the night, sometimes, for up to three hours, where they were drenched with iced water," it added.

The report said it had evidence

Hamido Al Sawi, had been tortured to death in the camp after being arrested on Dec. 9. It said Sawi's family had been told on Dec. 19 that he had died.

His brother was taken to identify the corpse in the morgue of a police hospital and asked to sign a statement that he had committed

The report said women had been detained at Imbaba police station and tortured "including beatings with rods and the handling of genitals and forcing them out of their clothes" to obtain information about their menfolk.

EOHR charged the militants with "crimes that cannot be justified under any law" including burning six police cars and a number of video clubs and attempting to kill police, causing the death by burns of one policeman and the serious injury of six

that a 23-year-old man, Ahmad others. Israeli troops kill 10-year-old

(Continued from page 1) Strip to create jobs for Palesti-

The prime minister, who returned three days ahead of schedule, reiterated his stance that security for Israelis could best be achieved through a peace agree-

"There was a wave, a tough wave of terror," Mr. Rabin said. "But you have to remember that the basic coalition to the problem is in the continuation of the peace

He added that he believed the Arab-Israeli talks would resume as scheduled April 20.

Mr. Rabin said security procedures would be more strictly enforced to prevent attacks and urged citizens to be more alert for 'suspicious" Arabs.

"I would greatly welcome a decrease in the employment of Palestinians in Israel," Mr. Rabin said. "As long as their number is reduced, the level of danger will be reduced."

'it turns out that the coexistnce under the existing circumstances creates difficulties," Mr. Rabin said.

Since Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza in the 1967 war, tens of thousands of Palestinians have become dependent on the Jewish state for work since the occupied territories, Gaza in par-

ticular, have little industry. Mr. Rabin added that in his meeting with U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali in New York Thursday, he raised the idea of raising funds for the occupied territories.

"The international community should be more ready to invest in the territories and create jobs there, thereby reducing the number of (Palestinians) who are coming over (to Israel)," he told reporters.

Referring to his meetings with President Bill Clinton and other American leaders, Mr. rabin said Israel's relations with the United States were cemented by his visit.

A few hundred members of Mr. Rabin's Labour party lined the road to the airport and sang peace songs to greet the prime minister, Israel Radio said. The esture contrasted with anti-Rabin rallies during his U.S. visit by right-wingers demanding a crackdown on the Palestinians.

684 evacuated from Srebrenica

(Continued from page 1)

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) territory.

'A situation may come about, which Germ my would regret politically, in which our crew would have to withdraw from the AWACS planes," he said, referring to surveillance aircraft that would guide NATO warplanes

patrolling Bosnian skies.
"For the 10 years this government coalition has existed, it has based its action on the principle of no out-of-area missions for the armed forces," the spokesman told Reuters.

U.N. Security Council mem-bers have said they expect a resolution on Monday to give NATO allies authority to shoot down planes violating the "no-fly" zone, created five months ago to prevent aerial bombings by the warring sides in Bosnia.

The council adjourned Friday without deciding how to enforce the "no fly" zone against repeated Serb violations. A diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the council could be ready to vote as early as Monday.

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SEARCH FOR GUNS: An American Marine goes through a home in Mogadishu looking for guns. In the room next to this kitchen an AK-47 assault rifle was found (AFP photo)

Aideed restates talks demands

(Continued from page 1)

conference boycott by Gen. Aideed.

Gen. Aideed and his allies have not left the conference and have been holding talks with other Somali factions and senior U.N. officials.

Somali experts said Gen. Aideed did not want to derail the conference, but was intent on

showing his political muscle at every stage.

On Friday, Gen. Aideed appeared to have taken a more

conciliatory line in a meeting with U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali's new special representative for Somalia.

Gen. Aideed told Admiral Jonathan Howe, a former U.S. national security adviser, that the SNA would give all cooperation needed to solve Somalia's crisis.

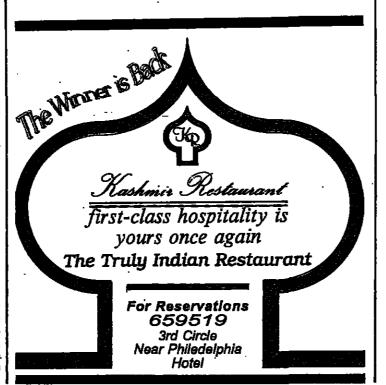
Yeltsin calls for referendum

(Continued from page 1)

clearly define the separation of powers between the executive and the legislative branches. Those functions were not well defined in the Soviet era constitution, which was based on Communist Party rule. ... "At the same time as the vote...

of confidence in the president is taken, there will be a vote on the draft of a new constitution and a law on the election of a federal parliament," he said in the Leaders of the Supreme Soviet,

the smaller standing legislature, scheduled a news conference Saturday night to discuss Mr. Yeltsin's speech.



Mississippi yard launches ship for Israeli navy

PASCAGOULA (AP) — The of that relationship." first of a new class of Corvettes being built for the Israeli navy was launched Friday at Ingalls shipbuilding,

In many ways, this great ship Eilat is symbolic of Israel," Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's ambassador to the United States, told about 300 people who attended the ceremony. "She is small, fast, powerful and sophisticated... with lots of firepower."

The ship is the first of three Sa'ar 5 Corvettes being built for Israel by the shipyard. The construction marks the first time Ingalls has built a ship for a

foreign government.

Efrat Rabinovich, the ambassador's wife, broke the traditional bottle of champagne on the dow of the sleek Corvette.

Mr. Rabinovich said the warship is expected to play a key role in maintaining Israel's access to sea lanes.

"Eilat cements the relationship between Israel and the United States," Mr. Rabinovich said. "Our partnership is based on shared ideas, shared emotions and shared interests. The decision to build Sa'ar 5 class Corvettes elevated the strategic dialogue and partnership between our two countries. The construction of this ship is another manifestation

Mr. Rabinovich apologised for Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who had been scheduled to speak at the ceremony. Mr. Rabin cut short a visit to the United States to return home

because of increased unrest. Mr. Rabinovich said Mr. Rabin's visit had accomplished its mission of cementing relations with the United States.

Several high ranking Israeli de-fence officials were on hand for the ceremony, including Admiral Ami Ayalon, commander in chief of the Israeli navy. Adm. Ayalon said the name

'Eilat" has a proud history in the Israeli navy. The first of four ships to carry

the name was a converted U.S. coast guard vessel first used to bring Jews to Israel after World War II. Adm. Ayalon said the ship was later used as a training

Jerry St. Pe', Ingalls president. said the ceremony marked a uni-que occasion "in that it's the first time in five decades of shipbuilding that we have launched a ship for anyone except the U.S. Navy." We were privileged to build

this vessel. We are committed to meet or exceed a'll expectations,"

Afghan groups delay talks

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JALALABAD, Afghanistan (R).

— Afghanistan's fractious guerrilla parties Saturday postponed talks on forming a cabinet and agreed that their leaders would meet in Kabul on March 29 to hammer out a final agreement.

"Because of several problems we did not succeed in forming a cabinet by the deadline tomorrow," said Noorullah Emad, representing President Burhanuddin Rabbani at the talks that began Friday in this eastern city.

Under a March 7 peace pact aimed at halting months of fac-tional fighting in Kabul, Prime Minister-designate Gulbuddin Hekmatyar was to name his cabinet by Monday in consultation with his arch-rival Rabbani.

Leaders of all the main parties would meet on March 29 in Kabui to try to narrow their differences over the composition of the defence minister.

cabinet, Mr. Emad said. Most leaders of the nine parties that signed the Pakistani-brokered pact stayed away from the talks in the governor's house in Jalalabad, 100 kilometres east of

A spokesman for the radical Hekmatyar said he had agreed to go to Kabul for the talks after the traditional holiday that follows the end of Ramadan.

Kabul, but sent representatives

Mr. Hekmatyar has not entered Kabul since the Mujahedeen took power from the former communist government last April, entrenching his forces to the southeast of the capital from where he has bombarded the city with rockets for months.

Mr. Emad said the parties had not discussed the delicate issue of who should take up the post of

U.S. documents 'war crimes' against Iraq

WASHINGTON (R) - Two to pursue the issue.

Among other things, the 116page report cited eyewitnesses who told of "Iragis torturing a woman by making her eat her own flesh as it was cut from her

The U.S. army collected "evidence of Iraqi war crimes that citizens and residents of Kuwait," the report stated.

Evidence included written and videotaped accounts from rape and torture victims, photographs of murdered Kuwaitis and videotapes of torture implements and burial sites.

"Today the United States conveyed to the United Nations a U.S. government report on substantiated Iraqi war crimes," in accord with U.N. Security Council resolutions, U.S. State Department spokesman Joe Snyder told reporters.

The report documents the outrageous behaviour of Iraqi units and individuals during the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait between August 1990 and February 1991," he said.

"The transmission of this report reflects the firm resolve of the United States government to ensure that Iraq fully complies with all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions," he added.

Mr. Snyder did not say, however, why it was that the United States has in the past eight months issued six reports on alleged war crimes in Bosnia-Herzegovina, while it took two years to publish the Iraqi report.

The New York Times reported report was stuck in bureaucracy Bush administration's reluctance heat.

years after the end of the Gulf The report said the army and war, the United States released a its investigators found at least two report Friday documenting war dozen torture sites in Kuwait City crimes committed by Iraq against where body parts had been amputhe citizens and residents of tated, electric drills used to penctrate victims' legs, chests and arms and electric shocks applied to sensitive areas like genitalia. Some victims were killed in

acid baths, the report added. Mr. Snyder was unable to say what would become of the report. Establishment of a war crimes tribunal by the United Nations confirms the massive scope of the remains "under consideration," offences committed against the he said, but added he did not know whether it was actively being considered.

U.N. plans

U.N. chemical specialists said Saturday they may have found a way to destroy weapons filled with deadly mustard gas as part of a programme to rid traq of its chemical arsenal.

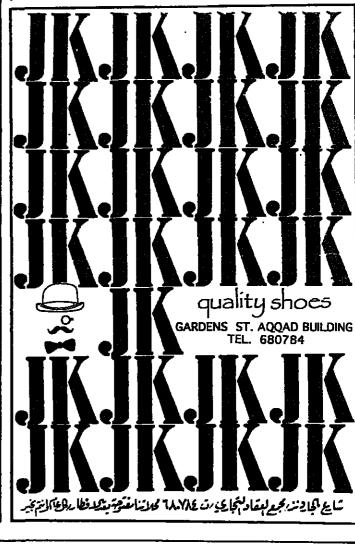
Ron Manley, a U.N. chemical weapons expert, said he would suggest to the U.N. a technique using a small explosive device to penetrate artillery shells to drain out the mustard gas. "We still have a large number

of artillery rounds containing mustard which have to be opened, emptied and destroyed by incineration," Mr. Manley

"There are approximately 13,000 of them, which we have just developed the technique to open," he added, Mr. Manley was speaking to

reporters after arriving in Bahrain with other U.N. chemical specialists from a week in Iraq.

Mr. Manely said he did not know how long it would take to destroy 12,000 to 13,000 artillery rounds filled with mustard gas, last July that the Iraq war crimes but if approval was given to the new technique he hoped it could for months, reflecting the then- be finished before the summer



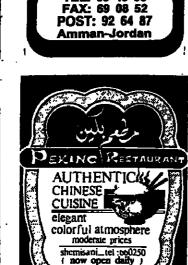
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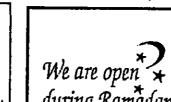
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should only wet your appetite to turn such a condition so it operates

in your behalf which will not be

LIBRA: (September 23 to October

22) An outside matter can upset

you very much early but don't let that keep you from getting out in

public and attending to civic, credit

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) A new plan you have counted on seems a long way off early but it is closer than you think, all you have to do is go after it with

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 21) You see why your mate is taking a perverse stand in some request tyou have made but let it sink in that persons mind by

giving a few hours and alls well.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) A worldly condition has you biting your nails but look deeper into the situation and you will find forestable for any your first forestable forestable for any your first fore

will find favourable factors not

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to Febru-

ary 19) Consider well the various reasons why work seems tiresome

early and you get a fresh new

stance and approach that can bring

PISCES: (February 20 to March

20) You think a pleasure you have

anticipated is gone early but actually it is merely dormant until

beneficial conditinos come about

visible on the surface.

pleasure from it.

so its more enjoyable.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY MARCH 21, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A wonderful day for you to

arrange your surroundings of all types so that in the days ahead you

will have a more operative plan

that will serve all your interest for a considerable length of time.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

Don't be sarcastic or abrupt with any of your household in the morn-

ing and later you find they respond to your wishes in a very satisfactory manner.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A

communication can make you fu-rious early but think twice and then again before responding and you find it can be made advantageous

GEMINE (May 21 to June 21) An

unexpected expense early can throw you for a loss but don't act

hastily and you will find you see ways to improve present financial position.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) You really feel someone has played a dirty trick on you but rise above it and as the day passes everything will develop in your

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Don't be annoyed because something occurs to disturb your equilibrium early for later you find events transpire giving you the chance to gain a desired aim.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September

22) An obstacle to gaining a goal

World Youth Soccer Championship

Last-minute goal gives Brazil victory

SYDNEY (R) — A searing left-foot shot in the last minute by striker Gian gave classy Brazil a 2-1 victory over African champions Ghana in the final of the. World Youth soccer Championship Saturday.

Gian's stunning goal was a fitting finale to a game of high quality in which the Brazilian favourites battled back from a half-time deficit to win a record third victory in this under-20 tournament.

Ghana, appearing in the 16nation competition for the first time, had gone ahead in the 12th minute through a spectacular header from their youngest player, Emmanual Duah.

The Torino 16-year-old rose above the Brazilian defence to hammer the ball past the diving Dida from a cross on the left by Augustine Ahinful. It was only the sixth goal against this Brazilian team in 23 internationals.

The Ghanians, playing with six members of the side that won the under-17 cup two years ago and with multi-million dollar midfielder Nii Lamptey dominating, deserved to be ahead at the

But they faced a different Brazil after the interval and the

Sydney

accused of

Olympics

the 2000 games.

trying to buy

ATLANTA (R) - The be-

leaguered Berlin Olympic bid committee Friday accused front-

runners Sydney of trying to buy

Sydney is believed to have a slight edge over Beijing in the race to obtain the games.

The other four candidates -

Berlin, Brasilia, Istanbul and

Manchester — are given little

chance of winning when the In-

ternational Olympic Committee

(IOC) makes its schoice in Monte

Many athletes would have to

Games, but the city has sought to offset this handicap by offering to pay their air fafes.

During a series of Olympic

meetings in Atlanta this week. Sydney tabled an extra offer to

horses, boats and other technical

lin, whose won bid has been beset

by disasters since it was launched

only be given in co-operation

with the IOC, otherwise it's

buying the games." Dieter Krick-

ow, sports director of the Berlin

This drew criticism from Ber-

'That kind of assistance can

equipment to Australia.

travel long distances to a Sydney

Carlo September 23.

pre-tournament favourites got the early goal they desperately needed within four minutes. Gifted midfielder Adriano,

strangely subdued in the first half, threaded a superb ball through the Ghanian defence for yan to latch on to and push past goalkeeper Ben Owu.

The equaliser triggered a wave of Brazilian attacks and climaxed with Gian's matchwinner prompting ecstatic scenes from his teammates and wild embracing on the Brazilian bench led by coach Julio Leal.

England beat Australia for third place

A brilliant individual goal four minutes from time by striker Julian Joachim gave England a 2-1 win over Australia and third place in the World Youth Soccer Championship Saturday.

The young Leicester City player Waltzed past three defenders before rounding goalkeeper Vincent Matassa and calmly slotting the ball in the net to seal the game against the under-20 cup

A minute before the end Sheffield Wednesday striker Chris Bart-Williams should have made it 13-1 but Matassa pulled off the

save of the match at close range. The second half came alive when Australia equalised after a scrappy first half in driving rain in which the young English professionals dominated and went ahead just before the interval through big defender David Un-

sworth. Bart-Williams, who always looked dangerous going forward, crossed from the right and found Unsworth at the far post who climbed above two defenders to head home.

Cheered on by a near capacity 40,000-strong crowd, Australia looked a different team in the second half and within seven minutes had levelled through striker

Ante Milicic. England goalkeeper David Watson was beaten when what looked like a harmless volley from Milicic hit from just inside the penalty area took a deflection from defender Andy Myers and the ball dribbled into the goal.

But Australia's furious secondhalf comeback was nullified by the brilliance of Joachim's goal which gave England third place and its best-ever result in the

biennial tournament.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

PHILADELPHIA (R) — The lowly Dallas Mavericks aided their desperate attempt to keep from becoming the worst team in

National Basketball Association history by winning their first road game of the season on Friday. The Mavericks, who snapped

a 19-game losing streak on Wednesday, posted consecutive wins

for the first time this season with an 89-87 triumph over the

Philadelphia 76ers. At the opposite end of the spectrum, the

Phoenix Suns — the NBA's best team this year — crushed the Detroit Pistons 127-97 to raise their record to 48-14 with their 28th

Kasparov, Short set to stage championship

LONDON (R) - Bids to host a new World Chess Championship

closed Friday amid signs that a rift between top players Garry

Kasparov and Nigel Short and the International chess Federation

(FIDE) appeared beyond repair. "Kasparov and Short are

committed to announcing new bids for their version of the title at

a press conference in London Monday," a source close to the

negotiations said. "The division between the players and FIDE

seems set to result in rival titles as in boxing," the sources added.

Short, 27, the first Briton to challenge for the world title, and the

Azeri-born world champion Kasparov, 29, split with FIDE in

February saying the chess body had failed to consider their wishes

when it awarded the match to Short's home city of Manchester.

'Reynolds offered sponsorship if he drops \$27 case'

ATLANTA (AP) — Butch Reynolds has been offered spon-

sorship deals by two companies as an incentive to drop his claim

of \$27.3 million against track and field's world governing body, a

source close to the case said Friday. The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said one of the offers came from a major

sports shoe company. The other company wasn't disclosed, but

both are believed to be sponsors of the International Amateur Athletic Federation. The IAAF filed a motion Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Columbus, Ohio, challenging the ruling

that Reynolds was entitled to \$27.3 million in compensation for

Dallas posts first road win of season

June meeting.
Similar calls by both the IOC and ASOIF have fallen on deaf ears among some federations in Nebiolo said the ASOIF would

IOC and

federations

on course

for doping

agreement

doping bans.

ATLANTA (R) — Olympic chiefs and international sports

leaders agreed Friday to march to

the same tune on standardising

The executive board of the

International Olympic Commit-

tee (IOC) will meet the Associa-

Antonio Samaranch nor ASOIF

boss Primo Nebiolo would hint at

the length of the proposed

standed doping ban.
But ASOIF sources said sus-

pensions would probably be set at

three months for a minor in-

fringement, two years for a first

serious offence and life for a

Existing suspensions for se-rious cases in the 26 sports on the

Summer Olympic programme

range from three months in cycl-

Nebiolo told a news conference

ing to four years in athletics.

there was still no guarantee that

all the federations would im-

mediately fall into line after the

second major infringement.

determine the attitude of the federations ahead of the June meeting, but added: "This does not mean we are sure that what we decide in June

will be followed by all our federa-"Those who agree will sign a (a standardisation agreement).

Those who don't sign, we will try to persuade to follow us. 'I have confidence in the goodwill of all the federations, but we are not absolutely certain that we

will succeed in persuading them

all to standardise." Nevertheless, the accord between the IOC and ASOIF appeared to be a positive response to a call earlier this week by the IOC Athletes' Commission for standardisation of all

doping procedures.

Nebiolo said Thursday he did not plan to put the ASOIF initiative on the agenda for Friday's meeting with the IOC executive

been concerned not to appear to be trying to impose on the supremacy of the IOC as the Olympic governing body.

Samaranch said the June meet-

But ASOIF sources said he had

ing would also deal with the IOC's growing enthusiasm for randon dope testing.

The IOC has indicated it is willing to provide funds to enable poorer federations to beef up

their testing programmes.

Samaranch said the June meeting would also deal with the vexed issue of "interference" by the civil courts in sports matters.

Graf, Sanchez Vicario in final

KEY BISCAYNE (R) - Frequent rain delays on Friday could not keep top seed Steffi Graf and second seed Arantza Sanchez Vicario from setting up a show-down in Saturday's final at the \$3 million Lipton Championships.

Undeterred by the numerous tion of Summer Olympic Sports Federations (ASOIF) council in frustrating interruptions, Graf demolished third-seeded Argen-Lausanne June 21 to nail down tine Gabriela Sabatini 6-0 6-2. "I made very few mistakes. My Neither IOC president Juan

forehand is the best it's been in a long time," Graf said. Next on the receiving end of

Graf's punishing forehand will be Sanchez, the women's defending champion. The speedy Spaniard made short work of 16th seed Kimiko Date of Japan with a 6-2 6-1 victory to earn a rematch with Graf after losing a final to the German two weeks ago.

The men's graw lost vet another marquee name when fifth-seeded Czech Petr Korda upset third seed Stefan Edberg in a quarter-final by taking a pair of tie-break in another match disrupted several times by rain.

But second seed Pete Sampras avoided joining the likes of Jim Courier, Andre Agassi and Edberg on the sidelines by pounding out a 6-3 7-6 (9-7) victory over 10th-seeded Dutchman Richard Krajicek after a lengthy rain delay.

"It was a tough day for everybody, clearing for 20 minutes, raining for five minutes. It's the most bizarre day I've ever been associated with," Sampras said.

The former U.S. Open champion trailed 4-5 in the tie-break when the rain started once again. When play resumed, Sampras saved a set point and took the match with help from a pair of double faults by Krajicek. Sampras will play Korda in one

semifinal, while the other semifinal pits talented young South African Marcos Ondruska against 14th seed Malivai Washington. The 48th-ranked Ondruska,

who earlier in the tournament upset defending champion Michael Chang and Michael Stich, beat Australian Mark Woodforde 6-4 6-2.

Woodforde reached the quar-

Nigel Mansell poses with British

want to win." Known as "our Nige" to his fans in Britain and II Leone to Italian motor-racing devotees. Mansell's aggressive driving is delighting crowds here at Surfers Paradise, host of the only Indycar race outside the United States

"Nuke 'em Nigel" trumpets

Pete Sampras

ters Thursday by upsetting Courier, who was forced to play two matches in one day because days of rain had played havoc with the tournament schedule.

event indoors.

about a nightmare," said tournament chairman Butch Buchholz. "If you wrote the worst possible script this would be it, but no one would believe it. We're looking at every conceivable option

Graf's convincing one hour and eight minute win took nearly six hours to complete, while Korda's two hour, 17 minute decision took more than seven and a half

"It's tough to play on a day like this," said Edberg. "Anybody could have won today because it's

Washington advanced to the final four by beating fellow American Patrick McEnroe 6-1 7-6 late Friday night.
The miserable weather in

usually sunny South Florida and rain-related court problems have left frustrated tournament officials contemplating moving the "Talk about indescribable, talk

including playing Monday and going indoors to the Miami arena," he said.

so tough coming on and off."

THE BETTER HALF, By Glasbergen GLAGGERGEN "I know you don't care for flowers,

Stanley, so I brought you a bouquet of junk food!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Amold

Peanuts

bid, told reporters.

two years ago.





his disputed doping suspension.





Andy Capp







Mutt'n'Jeff



Mansell in pole spot for Indy GP debut

SURFERS PARADISE, Australia (R) - Britain's motor racing champion Nigel Mansell starts his first Indycar Grand Prix Sunday in his favourite spot - at the front of the grid.

Mansell set a new track record in Friday's qualifying session on the street circuit of the Surfers Paradise: tourist resort, becoming the sixth driver in Indycar history

to debut in pole position.
"I am really happy to be on pole position," Mansell said after the second qualifying round Saturday. He retained his record breaking time of one minute 38.555 seconds although nearest rival Emerson Fittipaldi nar-

rowed the gap in the final session.

But Mansell, who dominated the 1992 Formula One season with 14 poles and nine wins, was cautious about how he will perform Sunday.

"Obviously it will depend on reliability and how hard everybody behind pushes. You can rest assured that all 26 drivers will



fans at the Australian Indycar Grand Prix (AFP photo)

and Canada.

one banner, while Union Jacks are dotted about the stands along the 2.795 mile (4.5 km) circuit.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

East-West vulnerable. South

A KNAVISH TRICK

NORTH ኞÃ 10 8 0 10 7 4 A J EAST WEST **₱ 10 7 5 4 2** SOUTH A Q 10 4 2 V K 6 8

The bidding:
South West North East
1 Pass 3 Pass
6 Pass Pass Pass Opening lead: Queen of & Study all the 52 cards of this deal. Would you rather play or defend six

spades?
The bidding was straight from a Goren textbook and right on target. With a balanced hand and probably an unnecessary queen of spades, South decided to be content to strive for 12 tricks when North jump raised spades to show 13-15 points and a good fit. The mirror distribution, however, made the

slam anything but laydown. West led the queen of diamonds, and South played the hand rather well. After winning the king of dia-

monds, declarer drew trumps cashed the ace and king of clubs and ace of diamonds, then exited with a diamond.

In with the jack of diamonds,
West had either to break hearts or
else yield a ruff and stuff. Declarer

covered the deuce of hearts with the eight and captured East's queen with the king. When a heart to the ten won, the slam rolled home. Was anything wrong with the re-suit? If so, what? We would venture to say that the

vast majority of players would have defended exactly as West did. And they would all have been wrong! suppose that, instead of exiting my or the closed hand, the fi-

with a low heart. West had returned the jack. Whether declarer wins in nesse position does not exist, so de-clarer will eventually have to concede a heart. The beauty of the play is that it costs nothing. On any lie of the cards where the defenders have a heart trick coming, they'll get it. And it gains if the cards are dis-

RATHEH REVOLVERS. CHEWEN Print answer here:

Unscramble these four Jumbles

DANSY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

MAN-MADE

Jumbles: SIXTY WRATH KIMONO GRATIS Answer: Advertising in its highest form-SKYWRITING

THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen



8 Devour 9 Away from the wind 10 Legal claim 11 Forgo food 13 Natural threat 15 Natural threat

43 Multed over

44 Make belower
44 Make belower
46 Tread and ri
48 — the land
50 Thongs
54 Masonic
doorkeeper
57 Endure

59 Amend copy 60 Mideast gulf 61 Certain channel 62 Muse number

63 Camera part 64 Certain ship

(bugbears) 68 Ninny

1 Took steps 2 A Gorbachev 3 Rite site 4 Hair slicker

21 Plente's pai 23 Notable time 25 Sharti

27 Do or re 29 Love god 30 Assay 31 Luge 32 — die 33 Uterary conflict 34 Pencil filler 36 Geel 39 Agile 43 With, in Wiesbaden 45 Bern's river 47 Fall bloomen

52 One of a sailing 55 Spring season 58 Captain Hook's Bide 61 Watch

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COMPANY'S MARK	TRADING VOLUME JD	PREV. CLOSTING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
مينويوم مسمور وجمع ود مينده مدمه مداري ما درود		-	8874	
REAL BANK	29,030	132.000	131.750	132,900
JOHNAN KATTOKAL BRICK	31,258			
CASRO MIRIAH SAWK	5,20%			26.100
ener of Jordan Industrial Development bank			22.550	22.7 6 0
THE HOUSING BARK	33,619	3.290	3.910	3.910
JOSTAN KINAIT BASK	31,720	3.840	3.860	3.900
ARRE JURGAN INVESTMENT SAME	30,061	2.560	2.560	2.550
JORDAN ISLANIC BANK	820	5-400	5.400	5.400 4.720
UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	17,174 6,358	4.720 4.160	4.74Q 4.150	4.140
BUSTMESE RANK	6,200		3.100	3.100
JUNEAU LEVESTHENT & PTHANCE DANK	2 632	6.100	6.200	6.300
BETT BINAL SAVIRGLINVESTMENT FOR SOUSING	2,943	5.400	5.350	5.350
AMEGNE MANK FOR INVESTMENT	8,800	1.760	1.760	1.760
AND BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN	2.961	3.370	3.320	3.380
ARABIRA SERS INSURANCE	4,200	2.800	2.800	2.800
JUNDAN PREMICE INSURANCE	73,600	3.960	4.900	4.000
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	11.680	3.180	3.200	3.200
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	182,260	1.810	I.900	1.900
DEED DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	4,725	1.050	1.050	
WATIOWAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	36,507	4.720		
REAL RETRIE INVESTMENT	12,376	1.680	1.670	1.670
Joedam Culp Weal Estate investment Petra Entricité & Equipments Leasing	14,865	0.810	0.810	0.800
MACHIBARY EQUIP. BENTING & MAINTENANCE	11,400 1,793	1.140 1.430	1.140	1.14D 1.450
WHITED MIDDLE EAST & CORMODORS HOTELS	18,790	2.300	2.320	2.320
ATTAMOSEP CONST. HATERIAL MANUFACTURING	4,448		2.120	2.080
THE FORDAM CHIENT PACTORIES	29,222	1.870	1.860	1.860
JUNUAR PETROLEUM REFIERRY	6,689	9.960	9.950	9.980
NOCKEN INDUSTRIES	148	3.050	2.950	2.950
THE INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTAL & AGRICULTURAL	4,398	6.100	6.100	6-090
THE JUNDAN WORSTED MILLS	11,717	9.600	9.600	9.650
ARAB FEARMACEUTICAL MAMUFACTURISC	32,982	7.070	7.090	7-170
JORDAN CERANIC INDUSTRIES JORDAN DAIRY	15,290	6.200	6.250	6.300
THE JORDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING	1,703	2.620	2.620	2.620
JORDAN PAPER & CARDSOARD FACTORIES	12,578	3.880	3.870	3.870
THE PUBLIC MINING	4,700 1,733	4.650 3.200	4.700 3.150	4.700 3.150
ANAB CHECCAL DETERGENTS INDUSTRIES	29,175	23.350		23.300
SPIRATING & MINATER	39,320	3.320	3.320	3.350
JOHDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES	10,462		9.760	0.770
der el dama development e investment	50,540		11.250	11.550
ARAB INVESTMENT & INCRMATIONAL TRADE	43,050	3.440	3.470	3.470
PARS STOREMENT INDUSTRA	256,307	13-910		14.550
JOHNAN HEDICAL CORPORATION	67,783	0.970	0.970	0.940
EXTICULAL STEEL INDUSTRY	4,838	0.690	0.680	0.690
MATICIAL INDUSTRIES INTERREDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	53, 694 5,336	6.090	6.100 0.990	6.150
INTERGOTATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	98,231	4.260		0.990 4.320
SOME MICHIGOL INDUSTRIES	1,435		2.870	2.870
UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	82,534		14.170	14.250
JURDAN INDUSTRIES & MATCH/JINCO	3, 385	1.300	1.300	1.300
JORDAN PRECAST CONCRETE INDUSTRY	11,682		0.610	0.620
JORDAN WOOD INDUSTRIES / JWICO NATIONAL CARLE & WIRE NAMOVACTURING	4,000	4.020	4.000	4.000
JOHNA SULPRO-CHEKICALS	308,394	8.500	B. 750	8.900
ARAS CHUTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS	36,504	4.650	4.650	4.700
JUNEAU AND AND AND ADDITION OF THE PERSON.	120,226 12,469		4.500	4-450
OFIVERSAL HODERS INDUSTRIES	228,546	5.680	5.690	1.740 5.760
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GRAND TOTAL	2,204,562	•	S F	43
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Financial

in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

Сигтевсу	Нем Уохь Свозе Рын 19/3/93	New York Close Det 18/3/93
Sterling Pound"	1.4900	1.4860
Deutsche Mark	1.6359	1.6415
Swiss Franc	1.5085	1.5060
French Franc	5.5690	5.5985
Japanese Yen	116.00	115.75
European Curreny' Unit	1.1850	1.1671 *
USD Per STG		•

Eurocurrency Interest Rates		1	Data: 19/3/1993		
Сигтенсу	I MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTH	
U.S. Dollar	3.00	- 3.12	3.18	3.43	
Sterling Pound	6.06	5.94	5.84	5.78	
Deutsche Mark	8.18	7.87	7.29	6.70	
Swiss Franc	4.93	4.81	4.56	4.31	
French Franc	12.37	11.12	9.76	8.75	
Japanese Yen	3.46	3.28	3.15	3.12	
European Currency Unit	9.50	8.93	8.50	7.87	

recions !				Date: 19,	3/1773
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm ²	. Metal .	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	332.05	6.35	Silver	3.69	.080

	Date: 20/3/199		
Currency	Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0.6820	0.6900	
Sterling Pound	1.0244	1.0295	
Deutsche Mark	0.4201	0.4222	
Swiss Franc	0.4550	0.4573	
French Franc	0.1237	0.1238	
Japanese Yen ^a	0.5921	C.5951	
Dutch Guilder	0.3738	0.3757	
Swedish Krona	0.0893	0.0897	
Italian Lire*	0.0436	0.0438	
Belgian Franc	0.02040	0.02056	

Other Carrencies	Dutu: 20/3/1993			
Светенсу	Bid	Offer		
Behraini Dinar	1.8000	1.8300		
Lebanese Lira ^d	0.03825	0.04085		
Saudi Riyal	0.1220	0.1845		
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2400	2.7750		
Qatari Riyal	0.1854	C.1880		
Egyptian Pound	0.1940	0.2150		
Omani Riyal	1.7600	1.7800		
UAE Dirham	0.1864	0.1580		
Greek Drachma*	0.3350	0.3950		
Cypriot Pound	1.3890	1.4090		

CAR Indices for Amman Financial Marks

17/3/1993 Close	10/3/1993	Close
192.91	191.59	
134.89	133.41	
213.43	213.86	
273.71	272.08	
250.14	251.77	
	192.91 134.89 213.43 273.71	192.91 191.59 134.89 135.41 213.43 213.86 273.71 272.08

Jordan banks stay cool to CD scheme

By Samir Shafiq Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Banks in Jordan are not yet determined as to how to respond to last Tuesday's announcement by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) that it will launch dollardenominated certificates of deposit next month.

CBJ Governor Mohammad. Saced Nabulsi said the certificate of deposit (CD) would have a minimum \$100,000 value, or its multiples, and could only be optionally bought by commercial banks

and financial companies. Bankers told the Jordan Times that the concept of introducing this new financial instrument to Jordan was beneficial to developing, activating and diversifying the investment climate in the Kingdom but, some said, prospects were weak for the certificates of deposit to have a noticeable

Others noted that it was too early to judge the scheme since many technical details must be made clear, especially the calculations covering price and

Dr. Nabulsi pointed out that CDs would be priced at preferrential rates to lure banks into purchasing them. He further clarified the following:

vield factors.

The CDs would be negotiable financial instruments carrying maturities for one, two and three years. However, only CDs having two or three years maturity could be repurchased by the central bank, prior to their expiry in six months, at an appropriate

One-year CDs, the governor explained, would carry an additional 4 per cent interest margin above Libid (the London interbank bid) rate where-

as two-year and three-year CDs would carry a 3/8 per cent and 1/2 per cent additional interest margins above Libid rates respectively.

Dr. Nabulsi stressed that the CDs would be part of the CBJ operations and were in no way to be linked to the Treasury's resources or to the government issued development bonds. He elaborated that the Kingdom's foreign currency holdings by the CBJ or the commercial banks had never reached these level before.

The governor pointed out that at the end of 1992 Jordan recorded a total of about \$4 billion held in foreign currencies. Commercial banks accounted for \$3 billion, the CBJ for \$800 million and the remainder was the equivalent of the 35 per cent obligatory reserve the commercial banks were required to deposit with the CBJ.

According to the guidelines outlined by the central bank, commercial banks cannot use

the equivalent of the 35 per cent obligatory reserve to buy one-year CDs. But, such an equivalent would be allowed as a payment to purchase the CDs carrying the two or three years maturity.

As such, the scheme was praised by all the senior bankers or foreign exchange dealers, who the Jordan Times interviewed as an advanced step towards developing the financial sector to higher

They agreed with Dr. Nabulsi that the CDs would repatriate foreign currency funds held abroad by providing the banks with competitive rates and that local depositors would also benefit from higher yields.

Moreover, they shared with

the CBJ governor his belief that the CDs would consolidate the financial position of all banks, especially when dealing with foreign institutions.

A top banker highly evalu-

commercial bank. ated the CBJ's new product and said that banks in Jordan

now have a chance to spread

the scheme by issuing their

own CDs and giving their

clients a share of the preferen-

tial rate which the central bank

Another "intelligent" bank-

er did not give the CDs much

weight and said that it was

introduced at this time only "to

engage Mr.... (name given but withheld) who acquired excel-

lent knowledge of the subject

before his return from the Gulf

region where he had worked

The general feeling was,

however, that the scheme was

a sensitive subject needing

further time to study its tech-

nicalities and measure its com-

"The CBJ's new product

seems worthwhile but we ha-

ven't had time to discuss it

among ourselves (banks) to

decide how to go about it,"

said a treasury official at a

figure.
Mr. Yukhnovsky said ministers

were targetting social services in

an economy drive to bring gov-

ernment spending below current

levels of over 50 per cent. Other

ministers said subsidies to indus-

try and local government would

would be offering.

for long years."

petitiveness.

Many foreign exchange officials said there were numerous ways that would enable the central bank to maximise its earnings above what the CBJ would be giving the banks in

Jordan. They predicted that the CBJ might lend the cash dollars and earn a loan interest or that it might invest it in a special fund whose interest is exceptionally

Another guess was that the CBI was planning a large scale foreign currency trade, especially at a time seen ripe for a rise in the value of the dollar and a major change in the value of other currencies, which might, overall, boost the profits of the central bank.

An observer said that the CBJ might use the cash dollars from the sale of the CDs to purchase a big chunk of Jordan's foreign debt and, thus, achieve a pretty good deal to save in debt service.

Moi says IMF, World **Bank ruining Kenya**

NAIROBI (R) — President Daniel Arap Moi said Friday Kenya was on the brink of collapse and he was reviewing relations with international donor agencies which had forced "dictatorial and suicidal" reforms on the country.

Mr. Moi singled out the Inter-national Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank for criticism, saying they had tried to impose excessively harsh conditions for a

resumption of aid to Kenya.
"Since November 1991, the IMF and the World Bank set for Kenya unilateral, harsh and dictatorial conditions to be fulfilled before quick disbursement aid could be released," Mr. Moi said in a statement.

Stating that Kenya would not agree to suicidal policies, he said: "The government is to rethink about the country's economic arrangements and take the necessary steps it deems fit to safegnard the welfare of the people."

World Bank regional officials were not available for comment. The IMF does not have a physical presence in Kenya and the U.S. einbassy said it was studying the However, senior Western di-

plomats said high level corruption, indiscipline in management of fiscal policy, misappropriation and lack of incentives for produc- nearly \$40 million in monthly

Pakistan reports finding

ISLAMABAD (R) - Huge coal reserves of 80 billion tonnes have

been found in Pakistan's Sind province, the official APP news agency

has said. No further details were immediately available about

Pakistan's biggest reported coal discovery. Prime Minister Nawaz

Sharif issued instructions to concerned authorities to fully develop

the mine for coal-based generation of electricity to help meet Pakistan's energy shortage, APP said. Pakistani authorities said last year they had found what they called the largest coal field in

southeast Asia and the Middle East with more than 10 billion tonnes

of reserves. Those reserves are also located in Sind at Thara-Jo-Goth

near the Indian border. Previously Pakistan had estimated its coal

huge coal reserves



Daniel Arap Moi

ers were largely to blame for Kenya's chaos.

University of Nairobi economists warned that severing ties with the IMF and World Bank would have more serious consequences. "It is a gamble I would not

expect the state to take. It would

mean greater suffering," said a

senior economics lecturer who declined to be named. But the Nation newspaper quoted French Ambassador Michel de Bonnecorse as saying the World Bank and IMF remedies were "simply unworkable

for the Kenyan people." The IMF, World Bank and other Western donors suspended

and had resulted in deep suffering

balance of payments support to Kenya in November 1991 to press Mr. Moi to make radical political and economic reforms.

Mr. Moi said the West wanted his government to raise bank interest rates by 45 per cent, cut the 270,000-strong civil service by 45.000 by November, and remove remaining price controls on essential commodities such as kerosene, sugar, maize and petroleum products.

He said the conditions were bound to cause poverty, unemployment and instability. 'They are unrealistic and

bound to cause untold suffering to the people," he pointed out. Mr. Moi said the West had failed to resume aid even though Kenya had tried to meet the conditions.

The government continued to fulfil these conditions hoping that the IMF and the World Bank could honour their promises. They have so far not done this," the statement said.

Raising bank interest rates would scare away foreign investors, stifle local enterprise and stall economic activity, Mr. Moi added. He said the Feb. 19 flotation of

the Kenyan currency, the shilling, and a follow-up official devaluation had seriously eroded the purchasing power of Kenyans and sent inflation soaring.

EC says European

recession far from over

BRUSSELS (R) — The recession gripping the 12-nation European Community (EC) is far from over, Eurostat, the EC's statistical office, has said. Industrial output fell by an average of 1.6 per cent

between the third and fourth quarter of last year, with the average for

the whole year down 1.1 per cent from 1991, Eurostat said. During

the year as a whole only Belgium, Denmark, Ireland and the

Netherlands managed a rise in industrial output. The Irish led with

growth of 10.1 per cent. Danish industrial output rose 1.4 per cent

year on year, with Belgium up just 0.5 per cent, and Dutch output

registering a scant 0.1 per cent rise. Output in what used to be West

Germany fell two per cent. Greece was down one per cent, Spain 1.3

per cent, France 0.9 per cent, Italy 1.6 per cent, Luxembourg 1.8 per

cent, Portugal 2.2 per cent and Britain 0.3 per cent.

Ukraine revises targets

KIEV (R) — The Ukrainian government, bowing to economic reality, no longer expects to meet ambitious targets for a 1993 budget deficit of 7.4 per cent of GNP, senior officials have said. But ministers in the former Soviet republic disagreed over forecasts for the deficit and the scale of spending cuts in the social services and other areas reeling from economic crisis.

The revised plans were drawn up after President Leonid Kravchuk rejected a draft government budget, saying it left key questions about curbing inflation and providing for low-income earners unanswered.

"The draft looks outdated and we will make many changes to create a more realistic, moderate budget," First Deputy Prime Minister Ihor Yukhnovsky told a news conference.

Parliament will examine the revised budget this week.

Ministers said further corrections could be introduced later in But initial hopes to cut the

budget deficit to 7.4 per cent from last year's 36 per cent are already being revised. Finance Minister Hrihory

Pyatachenko told reporters the new target would be at least eight per cent of GNP.

Economics Minister Viktor Pynzenyk, architect of Ukraine's plan to overturn seven decades of command economics, said that 15 per cent was a more realistic

be slashed further. Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma, the chief exponent of radical reforms, said recently social spending would be hit by cut-"Even Sweden cannot afford

such a luxury," he said. Mr. Kravchuk's rejection of the draft budget cast some doubt

over the future direction of reforms more than a year after Ukraine won independence from the Soviet Union. He also called for the creation of an "anti-crisis unit" to oversee reforms.

that the president made clear to him that policy would be determined jointly. He suggested the special crisis body would probably prove unnecessary.

He has also hinted at a shakeup in his ministerial team to bring more into line with Mr. Pynzenyk's thinking.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union production in Ukraine has plummeted, inflation soared to 2.500 per cent last year and staple goods have been in short supply.

But ministers say the tight money and privatisation policies introduced by Mr. Kuchma since taking office in October have begun to take hold.

They say inflation has dropped since the beginning of the year, though no official figures have yet been published.

AMF has \$767m outstanding loans

ABU DHABI (R) - The Arab their debts was hampering lend-Monetary Fund (AMF), the Arab World's main financial institution, has \$767.7 million in outstanding loans to member countries mostly to help them with balance-of-payments deficits. AMF Chairman Osama Faquih said in a report that \$609 million of those loans, or about 46.2 per cent of the fund's capital, were other Arab League countries exoverdue at the end of February, cept Djibouti, on the amount

ing. It has lent more than \$2 billion to members it was set up in 1976. Financial sources in Abu Dhabi, where the AMF is based, said recently it had suspended lending to Iraq, Sudan and Soma-lia for their failure to pay arrears. The fund partly ties lending to members, which included all the :r 1993. The AMF has said that they have contributed to the

failure by some members to pay capital. **IDB** reports sharp decline in net profit

MANAMA (R) — An invest-ment fund owned by the 47member Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Sunday blamed a 44.7 per cent drop in its 1992 net profit on fluctuating exchange

The IDB unit investment fund said it posted a \$7.37 million profit in 1992 compared with \$13.32 million in 1991.

"The year 1992 witnesses the adverse impact of exchange fluctuations on the income of the fund in its full measure," it added

But the fund said it still had \$14.94 million available for distribution - made up of the 1992 profit and a further \$7.57 million from retained earning from 1991 and 1990 profits.

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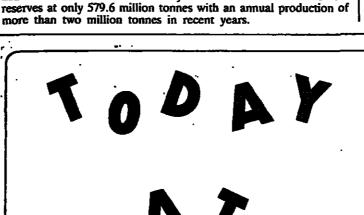
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Happy Feast

Georgian forces, Abkhazian separatists fight near Sukhumi

SUKHUMI, Georgia (R) — Fighting raged into the early hours of Saturday between Geor-gian forces and Abkhazian separatists in a war that has set Georgia and Russia at each other's

The regional capital of Sukhumi reverberated throughout the night to the sound of firing. Georgian troops used Grad missiles to launch attacks on rebel forces based just across the Gumista River, about six kilometres north of town.

Local residents, speaking from houses damaged in bombing raids earlier this week, blamed Russia for supporting the rebel Abkhaz

troops.
"Russia has its interests in get-ting hold of part of the Black Sea now," said 18-year-old Irakli Ratiani, whose one-storey home has sagging walls and ceilings after a bomb struck his residential

district early Wednesday.
"Russia is simply following its own interests. It could not care

less who controls the area, Georgians or Abkhazians."

Abkhazians form a small minority in the breakaway region, sandwiched between Russia and Georgia on the Black Sea

Describing the latest fighting, a Georgian military spokesman said government troops on the Gumista frontline had destroyed an Abkhazian armoured personnel carrier.

In another incident they shelled an Abkhazian vessel "man-oeuvring suspiciously" offshore, immobilising it.

Georgia accuses Russia of arming and supporting the rebels. Moscow denies the charge and says its forces are neutral in the conflict between the Abkhazians and Georgians.

The fighting has left Sukhumi, the Georgian-controlled capital of Abkhazia, virtually without water and electricity supplies. There are few telephone links

Georgian military officials say up to 500 soldiers and civilians were killed this week, mostly on the rebel side. Another bid to storm the city cannot be ruled

out.
"We are ready, of course, because there could be another offensive, though I personally feel they lost too many men for another assault soon," said Soso Margishvili, chief of Sukhumi's Military Press Centre.

The rebels came within two kilometres of the port city last Tuesday before being pushed

The failed offensive left scores of homes in this seaside resort in rubble. Georgian leader Edouard Shevardnadze said Friday his of which was blown away by the country's forces had shot down a bomb. Russian military plane, killing the

"It is time to stop before it is too late," local journalists quoted reduced to after 40 years of marhim as saying. "The mistakes of Afghanistan and Czechoslovakia ried life. We have nothing and nobody to turn to."

must not be repeated," he said, referring to Soviet invasions of

Georgia says hundreds of homes in Sukhumi have been destroyed in the conflict, but not all victims blame Russia.

One Russian woman, Tamara Pivovarova, whose house was gutted last Wednesday by a bomb that nearly killed her, her husband and his mother, blamed Mr. Shevardnadze for not stopping the conflict.

"The leadership is guilty, both sides are guilty. Our young peo-ple are being killed, blood is flowing. We have been without water, gas and bread for months," she said, standing in her single-storey house, the front

"Look at this," she said, ges-turing to her shattered fridge and cooker. "This is what we are

Clinton to make 1st appointment to Supreme Court

servative U.S. Supreme Court Justice Byron White announced his retirement Friday, giving Democratic President Bill Clinton his chance to start remoulding the court whose decisions can have far-reaching effects on the lives of Americans.

Mr. Clinton promised during the 1992 election campaign to make sure his Supreme Court appointees believed in a woman's right to have an abortion, which Justice White opposed.

Justice White, 75, the Supreme Court's most senior member, was appointed in 1962 as a moderate liberal but moved to the right and between them appointed five of voter with conservatives on most

Mr. Clinton, who took office in January, said Friday he meant to find "a truly outstanding American" to replace Justice White by the time the court opens its autumn term in October.

He told reporters during a visit to Atlanta he wants someone with good judgment, wide experience and "a big heart."

Conservatives' influence increased greatly during the presidencies of Republicans Ronald Reagan and George Bush --- who

the nine justices.

Harry Blackmun, 84, the most liberal member of the court, is expected to retire soon, a move that would give Mr. Clinton at least two high court appointments during his term.

In addition to Justices White and Blackmun, the court includes Chief Justice William Rehnquist and Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy, Sandra Day O'Connor, David Souter, John Paul Stevens and Clarence Tho-

Justice White's rightward shift for children in public schools.

seemed most pronounced in the area of civil rights. He joined the conservatives in opposing "affirmative action" programmes to help minorities and women. In 1986, he stirred controversy

by writing the court's opinion that constitutional protections of privacy do not extend to homosexual conduct — a major setback to the "gay rights" move-

Justice White consistently opposed restrictions on the police, and dissented from rulings that outlawed voluntary prayer

Amato is determined to steer Italy to reform

ROME (R) - Italian Prime a humiliating parliamentary de-Minister Giuliano Amato has accused political enemies of spreading rumours he would resign to weaken him and said he wants to stay on to oversee radical electoral reform in the scandal-hit coun-

"I have been subjected to real attacks but these have been conducted in the most underhand manner, in line with the dictates of the old political ways," Mr Amato said in an interview published in the daily La Stampa Saturday.

He blamed an old guard which saw its power slipping away as a corruption scandal sweeps through the political and business class and hastens institutional reform in Italy.

"They tried to portray me as a lemon which had been squeezed dry," the prime minister added.

Both Mr. Amato and the office of President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro Friday denied the prime minister had tried to resign after suffering

Filipino vice-president escapes ambush

MANILA (R) — Gunmen ambushed crime-busting Philippine

Vice-President Joseph Estrada with grenade-launchers Saturday

and injured two police officers, police said. Mr. Estrada, a former

movie actor who now heads a presidential anti-crime panel

battling a wave of kidnappings, said he was not hurt and vowed

after the attack to launch a crackdown on all criminal gangs in the

Philippines. "I'm OK. It's time to clean up our country of criminal

gangs," Mr. Estrada, who played tough guy roles in the movies, said in an interview with radio station DZXL after the attack

outside Santo Tomas some 65 kilometres south of Manila. Police

said a renegade group of former Communist guerrillas may have

been behind the ambush, but no group has so far claimed

BRATISLAVA (R) — Slovak Foreign Minister Milan Knazko

was fired Friday after losing a protracted and public power struggle with Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar, the second minister to go in as many days. Diplomats said Knazko's departure marked a decisive political victory for Meciar, 50, a

former boxer and ex-Communist often accused of intolerance and

authoritarianism. Mr. Knazko had refused repeated requests

from Mr. Meciar to resign, saying the Slovak constitution did not

allow the premier to sack a cabinet minister. In a final broadside

before stepping down, he accused Mr. Mediar, without mention-

ing him by name, of resorting to authoritarian methods to govern

BUCHAREST (R) - Romania's minority government survived

a showdown vote on its economic strategy Friday, the first parliamentary no-confidence motion in seven decades. Senate

leader Olivin Gherman announced a 260-192 result in the

government's favour after a debate and secret ballot in which

deputies cast black and white marbles into urns. "The censure

motion lodged by the opposition has fallen short of the 243 votes

required under the constitution," said Mr. Gherman, leader of President Ion Iliescu's ruling Democratic National Salvation Front (DNSF) party. Prime Minister Nicolae Vacaroiu won the

duel after the centrist opposition branded the four-year economic

reform plan which he presented this month as too vague and

attacked him for delaying privatisation. It was the first such

debate in Romanian parliamentary history since 1922.

Romanian government survives vote

Slovak foreign minister fired

feat this week.

Mr. Scalfaro has meanwhile cancelled a state visit to Denmark politics. and Finland which had been scheduled for later this month.

The unusual step underlined the sense of alarm in a country reeling from the scandal centred on the systematic payment of kickbacks by businessmen to politicians in return for public works contracts. Mr. Scalfaro's chief spokesman

said Saturday the president wanted to remain in Italy during the campaign for a referendum on April 18 which could spell the ning of the end for Italy's much derided system of proportional representation.

Voters must decide on 10 reforms — the most important being whether to introduce a simple majority system for nearly all the seats in the Senate (Upper House).

A 'yes' vote would pave the way for wholsale electoral

changes for the larger Chamber of Deputies (Lower House) and could change the face of Italian

Mr. Amato, whose nine-month old administration struggles on with a wafer-thin parliamentary majority, told La Stampa be intended to stick to his post after the referendum.

He evoked the possibility of broadening his coalition to steer the country through a transitional period ahead of fresh general elections under a new system. "After the reform there won't

be the old parties who are ready to launch an electoral campaign as if nothing had happened," Mr. Amato said. "We will reach elections with

forces. These will need time to undecided. organise themselves," he added.

The prime minister urged the former Communists of the newspaper, showed only two in

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

The prime minister told a news conference in Florence Saturday

"I think in Italy it is useful to go beyond proportional representation because there is the possibility to group social, civil and political forces around poles which are vital for the democratic

he backed a "yes" vote in the

system," Mr. Amato said. The voting system is blamed for Italy's post-war history of revolving door governments -Mr. Amato heads the 51st admi-

nistration since World War II. A poll Saturday forecast 54 per cent of Italians would vote for electoral reform for the Senate on new rules and new political April 18 but 35 per cent remain

The poll, carried out by the Doxa Institute for Il Messggero Democratic Party of the Left 10 of those questioned under-(PDS) and the small Republican stood exactly what they were Party to state their terms for being asked to vote on.

Mandela: **Political** ambition would be wrong

WASHINGTON (R) — African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela says in a television interview to be broadcast later this month that he has no political ambitions in expected elections in South Africa.

"It would be wrong for me to have any personal ambition (in politics)," Mr. Mandela told David Frost in an interview to be broadcast on March 26 by the U.S. Public Broadcasting Ser-

Mr. Mandela was responding to Mr. Frost's question on whether he would seek South Africa's presidency in elections expected later this year or early

"I was brought up in the tradition of teamwork and in these matters it is the team, not the individual that is crucial," Mr. Mandela said. "There are many capable comrades in the ANC and I would be honoured to serve under them.'

He added, "if the people want me to wear a uniform and be a watchman... I will be happy to do

Mr. Mandela said he was encouraged by the Clinton administration's assurances of help in South Africa's transition to democracy after 300 years of white minority rule, but said the United States was unlikely to play a large role in the process. .

"I don't think I should exaggerate the role which the United States of America could play because they have got their own problems. South Africa will not be a priority," he said. South African President F.W.

De Klerk, who began dismantling apartheid three years, told Mr. Frost he would serve under Mr. Mandela if that was what the South African people chose.
The head of the ANC's main

political rival, chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, told Mr. Frost he had the same objectives as Mr. Mandela but favoured different methods.

However, Mr. Buthelezi denied even considering secession

polls, but this still does not assure

reelection next year, an opinion

stunned by an eight percentage point drop in local elections in

Hesse state early in March, fell to

35 per cent this month from 43

per cent in February, a ZDF

could not do any better in power

than Mr. Kohl's government and

only 51 per cent felt SPD leader

Bjoern Engholm was the right

man to stand against Mr. Kohl in

general elections late next year.

ter, ranking last in a list of Ger-

many's 10 most popular politi-

But Mr. Kohl fared little bet-

Eighty per cent felt the SPD

poll said Friday.

Television poll said.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of

The popularity of the SPD,



for predominantly black areas. Mr. Christopher's predecessors in Negotiators are due to start a two-day meeting in Johannesburg on April 1 in a fresh bid to thrash out terms for transition to demo-

Since the dismanting of apar-theid began, some 7,700 people have died in township warfare, much of it between supporters of the ANC and Inkatha.

Meanwhile U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher met South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha Fridy and offered U.S. help in negotiations on a transition to democracy and majority rule due to resume next month.

"I'm very pleased to note that negotiations are going to be resumed in early April for the transitional government," Mr. Christopher said, welcoming Mr. Botha to the State Department.

"Negotiations are the only way to go in that circumstance. The United States wants to assist you in any appropriate way in those negotiations," he said. Mr. Botha described his meet-

ing with Mr. Christopher as "by and large a most useful, constructive and encouraging visit." Mr. Botha, a former South

African ambassador to the United Nations and the world's longest-serving foreign minister, noted that he had met serveral of

BONN (R) — Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD) Cians behind retired Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher political scandal which has badly

(first place), Mr. Engholm

(fourth place) and four close

Mr. Kohl even ranked behind

ninth-placed Oskar Lafontaine,

the ambitious former SPD leader

he trounced in the 1990 election.

Christian Democrats and the

SPD would each get 36 per cent

of the vote in an election now.

The Greens would get 10 per cent, the liberal FDP eight per

cent, the far-right Republicans six

per cent and other parties four

"The only government would be a coalition of the SPD, FDP

and Greens or a grand coalition

The survey said Mr. Kohl's

German opposition lower in poll

allies.

per cent.

the past 15 years, including Henry Kissinger, Cyrus Vance and George Shultz.

"It's a very precions moment," he said. "I have come here for the first time to discuss with you affairs without the burden of apartheid."

Reporters who covered some of those earlier visits recalled vividly Mr. Botha vigorously depending apartheid to the news media after strained sessions with U.S. officials. But in a news conference

Thursday, Mr. Botha was all contrition. 'Apartheid was a mistake,'

Mr. Botha said of the system through which the white minority for decades deprived black South Africans of basic rights and condemned them to economic impoverishment.

"It was based on racial prejudice, it was morally indefensible," he declared.

His mission this time is to try and bring Africa in general and South Africa in particular back to the attention of U.S. policymakers.

He warned Thursday that Africa was becoming marginalised as the world's attention turned to the problems of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

tarnished Mr. Engholm's "Mr.

Clean" image was the main reason

It listed unemployment and un-controlled immigration as the

main issues worrying Germans.

drop compulsory military service

in favour of a volunteer army, a

change Mr. Kohl opposes. It

international military missions.

cists Friday firebombed a refugee

camp in the north German town

of Moelln, scene of last Novem-

In a separate development, ra-

It said 57 per cent wanted to

for his fall in popularity.

WINDHOEK (R) - A Namishowed no majority support for his hopes of changing laws barring German troops from joining

FBI searches apartment of man wanted for questioning in bombing

The process of the

WOODBRIDGE, N.J. (AP) — The probe into the World Trade Centre bombing moved to the apartment of a man wanted for questioning, but investigators said they failed to find him.

A woman who works in the rental office of the apartment complex said the man, Mahmud Abouhalima, lived with his wife - who is apparently German and four children in the apart-

"I don't know when he was last there," the FBI said Friday as agents searched the apartment. The woman, who did not want her name used for fear of retribution, said Mr. Abouhalima's brother, Mohammad, lived in the apartment upstairs with his wife and two children. She said neither man had paid his rent this month and she had not seen

FBI agents led a man away shortly after noon from the apartment but would not immediately identify him. The man matched a description given by neighbours of one of the male occupants inside the split-level house in the

either recently.

200 unit apartment complex.

A law enforcement source said the man was Abouhalima's brother, Mohammad, but FBI spokesman Jim Lamb would not comment.

No arrests were made, Mr. Lamb said.

Mr. Lamb said no explosives were found inside but would not he signed the rental agreement

META FORTH SITTY TAKE AND EMPOUSING FORWARD TOUGH CAPERATOTIC SELECT PLANTAGE. PLEASE CHECK OVER INFO PARTICIN PRINTED EL.



This March 18 photo shows Mahmud Abouhalima upon his applica-tion to the New York Taxl And Limousine Commission. He is being sought by the police as the fourth suspect in the bombing of the World

(of Christian Democrats and Social Democrats)," ZDF said. ber's arson killing of three Turks, prosecutors said.

Trade Centre (AFP photo) detail what was taken out of the that he met his wife, who wore a throughout the day.

The Trade Centre, in the heart of New York's financial district, was crippled on Feb. 26 by a bomb which killed six people and wounded over 1,000. Two suspects, Mohammad Salameh and Nidal Ayvad, have been arrested.

The woman in the rental office said she recognised Mahmud Abouhalima's face when she saw his picture on television and in the newspapers.

Mr. Abouhalima told her when

apartment. FBI agents, some veil and full length dress, while he wearing rubber gloves, took was studying in Germany, she boxes from the apartment said. She did not know when he studied.

> Mr. Abouhalima had told him they had only one child, but she said the manager did not kick him out once it was discovered they had four.

Life continued to return to normal at the World Trade Centre, where several businesses went back to their offices Friday.

The bombing investigation continued as well, with the focus remaining on tons of rubble beneath the towers.

CALLIMN

Stolen Rubens found hidden behind furniture

LONDON (R) - A painting by Rubens stolen in Ireland's biggert art theft has been found hidden behind furniture in a house near London, police said. The painting of a Dominican monk is valued at £4 million (\$5.95 million). It was taken in 1986 from the County Wicklow home of Sir Alfred Beit when 17 old masters worth an estimated £30 million (\$44.60 million) were stolen. It was recovered Thursday after police raided a house at Borehamwood in Hertfordshire.

Prince Charles awarded ecological , medal

BONN (R) - Britain's Prince

Charles has received a prize sponsored by an international group called "Artists For Ecology" and awarded in recognition of his interest in preserving the environ-ment. The heir to the British throne was presented with the Ecological Eagle Award — a bronze eagle — by German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel. "Your royal majesty was kinkel." royal majesty, you have in your important position set a convincing personal example through your commitment." Mr. Kinkel said during a ceremony in Bonn's hilltop Petersberg Hotel. "We congratulate you, we share your joy in receiving this prize." The annual award is granted to a personality who has helped improve the environment. Mr. Kinkel praised the prince for his work at his Highgrove country home, where he uses organic farming methods.

Hillary Clinton's father suffers stroke

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (R) - The father of U.S. first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is in stable condition at a Little Rock hospital after suffering an apparent stroke, a hospital spokes-woman said. The first lady flew to Arkansas Friday night to be with her father, Hugh Rodham, 81. "We suspect Mr. Rodham has indeed suffered a stroke, but he is in stable condition," said Carolyn Lindsey, the hospital's public affairs officer. Ms. Lindsey said she believed Mr. Rodham became ill at his Little Rock home. A native of Chicago, Mr. Rodham and his wife moved to Arkansas several years ago to be nearer his daughter and son-inlaw, then-Governor Bill Clinton.

Mother gets wrist-slap for murdering baby

bian court let a tribeswoman walk free after finding her guilty of murdering her premature baby. The 17-year-old woman from the San tribe of hunter-gatherers regarded as the original moderndayt inhabitants of southern Afri-'ca was convicted. The trial was reported in Namibian newspapers Friday. The court heard that she gave birth last July in a minibus and was taken to a hospital where no one spoke her language. Her husband was not allowed to stay with her. Nurses testified that she took the two-day-old child from an incubator and deliberately dropped it on the floor. The woman said in a statement the fall was an accident. Judge Harold Levy said there were extenuating circumstances. "An unsophisticated bushman found herself out of bushmanland for the first time," he said. "The accused was left among strange people who could not understand her. She was left with no support and was extremely distraught." The judge sentenced her to be detained until the court ended the day's session.

Judge gags cockerel

NEWTON ABBOT, England (R) — A noisy cockerel whose nocturnal crowing kept a family awake in an English village was gagged by a British court. Government officials found the noise reached official nuisance levels and company Director John Ritchings applied for a court ban on the outpouring of the cockerel. Corky, A judge in Newton Abbot, southwest Engaind: granted an injunction forbidding Corky's owner from allowing the bird to crow between midnight and 7:00 a.m. so as to cause a noise nuisance. The bird's owner Margery Johns, who fought the application arguing the crowing was a normal country noise, said she was "very disappointed." Legal costs estimated at £5,000 (\$7,433) were awarded against Johns but damages, which the judge proposed at £250 (\$370) 1 1 were waived by the plaintiff.

5 die in blast at Bulgarian plant

NIKOLOVO. Bulgaria (R) — A huge blast at a Bulgarian military explosives plant killed five people and injured more than 60, police said. The explosion at the Dunarit plant at Nikolovo. 300 kilometres northeast of Sofia, happened as workers were unloading two lorries carrying containers filled with a combustible

material used to make weapons fuses. Both trucks exploded near a warehouse where 60 tonnes of the same material detonated in a chain reaction, devastating the surrounding area. Nearby buildings and trees were destroyed. "There is huge crater of 2,000 square metres at the site of the explosion," a Nikolovo police officer said. Of the 60 injured workers, 10 were in a serious condition, half of them fighting for their lives, officials at hospitals in the nearby town of Rousse said.

Escobar's military chief killed

BOGOTA (R) - Colombian police shot dead cocaine king Pablo Escobar's second-in-command Friday, shortly after one of Mr. Escobar's lawyers said the Medellin cartet chief was preparing to surrender peacefully. Police acting on a tipoff stormed an office building in central Medellin and killed Mario Castano Molina, alias El Chopo, allegedly after he resisted arrest. "This is the way in which the Colombian National Police is showing Colombians the effort, the will, and the decision to finish off drug terrorism," National Police Chief General Miguel Antonio Gomez Padilla told RCN Radio. Colombian authorities had offered a reward of 100 million pesos (\$133,000) for information leading to the arrest of Mr. Castano, the cartel's military chief, who was accused of masterminding a campaign of bombings and killings in Bogota and Medellin during the past five months. Police say Mr. Escobar ordered the attacks to pressure the government into negotiating favourable terms for a surrender.

Renewal plan launched for Athens

ATHENS (R) — Greece's government launched a multi-milliondollar urban renewal plan Friday to make the capital's centre an "archaeological park" with walkways linking monuments which were the glory of ancient Athens. "We want Athens, the birthplace of Western democracy, to be a fitting historical capital for Greece and for Europe," Culture Minister Dora Bakoyanni told a news conference. The conservative government will pump \$550 million into the vast public works project over five years, giving a long overdue facelift to the European Community's most polluted and rundown capital. Ms. Bakoyanni said her programme had the full backing of the government. Worm would start immediately to link ancient sites with sprawling pedestrian walkways and new parks. She said the aim of the renewal programme, the biggest ever in Athens, was to turn the city of Plato. Socrates and Pericles into an expanded "archaeological park" by the end of 1998.

Explosion kills 3 in Pakistan

QUETTA, Pakistan (R) — An explosion killed three people and injured 14 as workers were unloading a truck in the southwestern province of Baluchistan Saturday, police said. "Labourers were unloading goods from the truck... when some explosive material went off," a police officer said. Two men were killed instantly and a third died in hospital. Police were investigating the cause of the